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A TERRITORIAL JURIST OF RENOWN

THE ANNALS OF IOWA

An Historical Quarterly

ESTABLISHED 1863

Third Series

Vol. XXV, No. 2

OCTOBER, 1943

PUBLISHED BY THE

Iowa State Department of History
and Archives

DES MOINES, IOWA

The Iowa State Department of History and Archives

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In the more than half a century THE ANNALS OF IOWA has been published, it has made accessible to the people generally a vast amount of interesting and accurate data on the history of the State that otherwise would not have been available. The securing of material, and editing and supervising its publication, is a part of the immediate task of carrying on the work of the Department in harmony with its well established traditions. The Editor welcomes for publication the contribution of the reminiscences, the writings, the biographies, observations and studies of those familiar with Iowa people and with important and significant events and movements in the state's history.

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ORA WILLIAMS, Curator

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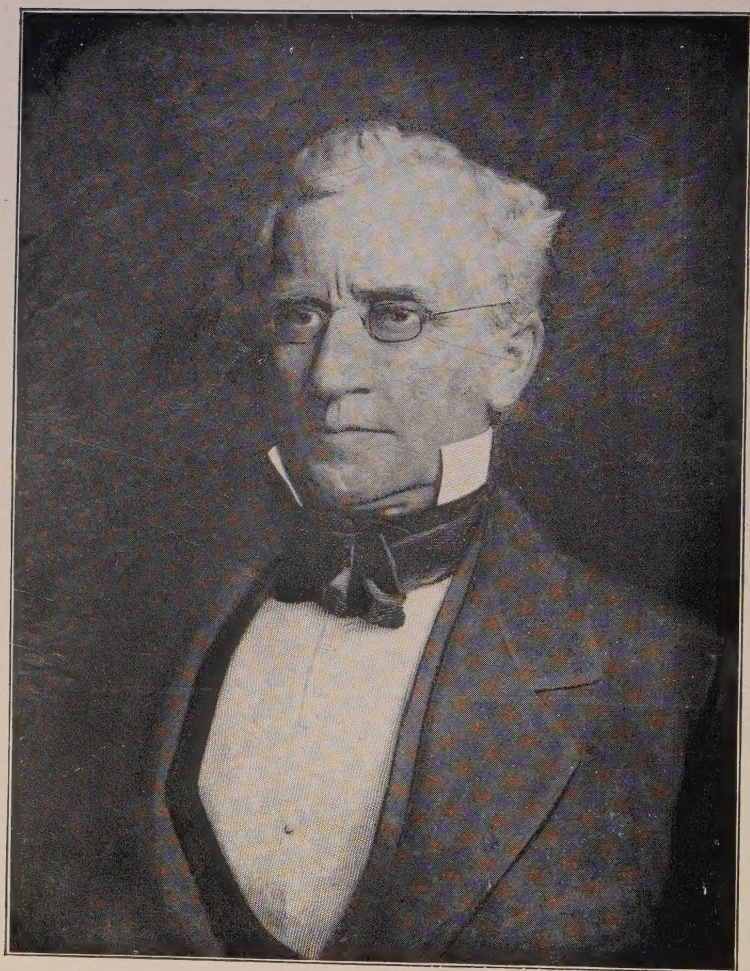
DES MOINES

ORA WILLIAMS, Editor

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Yours with sincere Esteem
J. Williams

JUDGE JOSEPH WILLIAMS

Associate Justice Supreme Court of Iowa Territory, 1838-1846;
Chief Justice, June 1847 to January 5, 1855.

ANNALS OF IOWA

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JUDGE JOSEPH WILLIAMS¹

TERRITORIAL JUSTICE OF IOWA SUPREME COURT

By WM. M. McLAUGHLIN²

Judge Joseph Williams came to Muscatine, Iowa, from Pennsylvania in 1838, when Iowa was part of the Wisconsin Territory. He was an unusual and unique character. The late Judge George G. Wright once said of him:

He was doubtless as eccentric as any man ever elevated to the bench. He was a Methodist, a democrat, a prince among good fellows, and withal a wise and just judge; he was the best story teller I ever knew; he could lead a class meeting, address a Sunday School, sing a rollicking song, play a fiddle, flute or fife,³ and charge a jury with equal ease; he was not a great lawyer, but an acceptable judge.

It is said that Judge Williams was schooled in the classics, a popular public speaker, a fine baritone singer, and that he possessed considerable ability as a ventriloquist.

There were three of the Williams brothers. They settled at Muscatine. Their given names were William,

¹"Of the early judges who have adorned the bench of the Supreme Court of Iowa the memory of none has been so keenly kept alive as that of Judge Joseph Williams. By reason of his strongly marked individuality, he was always a center of interest and observation."—Edw. H. Stiles in the ANNALS OF IOWA, p. 161, Vol. VII.

²A paper by Wm. M. McLaughlin, attorney and lecturer, a member of the Des Moines bar.

³Seth J. Temple in article *Camp McClellan During The Civil War*, in ANNALS OF IOWA, p. 25. Vol. XXI: "A visitor in Camp—Day before yesterday Judge Williams of Muscatine, visited Camp McClellan—especially to see the Muscatine boys there, we presume. The judge is a gray-haired and very affable old gentleman and well known in this region. He rather astonished the boys in camp. He first got a violin and uniting his voice to its melody, sang some first-rate songs. He then visited the band headquarters, and taking a drum not only beat it in style, but beat all the drummers in camp. He then convinced them that he was also rather ahead in the fife. No other instruments laying around loose, he did not give further exhibition of his musical genius. The judge was a drummer boy in the War of 1812. During his visit to the camp he joined the band, and played the fife when they 'beat off.' The judge's visit was apparently a delightful one to himself and to the whole camp. He will be welcome again."—*Davenport Democrat*, January 22, 1862.

Joseph, and Robert.⁴ Robert continued to reside in Muscatine until his death; William joined the army and attained the rank of major. He was with the troops that established the fort at Fort Dodge in 1850, the fort being first named Fort Clarke. Fort Dodge continued as a fort until it was vacated after a period of two years. At that time Major Williams resigned from the army and purchased from the government the land and buildings of the fort and founded the present city of Fort Dodge.

At the time of the Spirit Lake massacre in 1857 three companies of volunteers were formed, one at Webster City and two at Fort Dodge, and Major Williams was placed in command of the three companies. Major Williams and the three companies made the trip to Spirit Lake in an attempt to rescue the settlers in the late days of the winter, across unsettled and uncharted prairies, encountering blinding blizzards and intense cold and amid terrible suffering, the temperature being far below zero. Major Williams was long an outstanding and most worthy citizen of Fort Dodge. A daughter of Major Williams became the wife of the late John F. Duncombe, one of Iowa's distinguished lawyers.

Judge Joseph Williams was addressed by his friends generally as "Judge Joe". He was born at Huntingdon, West Morland county, Pennsylvania on December 8, 1801. He was a fellow student with Jeremiah S. Black in the private law office of Chauncy Forward, long a celebrated Pennsylvania lawyer. In their association in the study of the law there was developed a warm and lasting friendship between Judge Williams and Jeremiah S. Black, a friendship that doubtless had much to do with Judge Williams' march to fame. On their admission to the Pennsylvania bar each hung out his shingle at Somerset in that state, and the two youthful attorneys

⁴ "Joseph was the junior of William and the senior of Robert. Their father died in 1822, when Joseph was about twenty-one years of age, the latter having lived at home and under the direction of his father until that time. . . . He was deemed sufficiently equipped to enter as a law student, soon after his father's death, the office of Chauncy Forward.—Edw. H. Stiles in the ANNALS OF IOWA." p. 163, Vol. VII.

became rivals in the practice of the law, but that rivalry seems to have augmented rather than lessened their friendship.⁵

Jeremiah S. Black later became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and won national fame as a great lawyer. He was Secretary of State for a time in President Buchanan's cabinet and for a time Attorney General in the same cabinet. Judge Jeremiah S. Black, who will be mentioned as Judge Black hereinafter, was a great patriot. When the states began to secede he urged President Buchanan that measures be immediately taken to protect federal property and resist armed rebellion and persuaded the president to send supplies to the southern forts. Judge Black was a great admirer of Abraham Lincoln. It is said by good authority that Jefferson Davis told Judge Black shortly after Lincoln delivered his first Inaugural Address that someone else, perhaps William H. Seward, had written the inaugural for Lincoln, to which Judge Black replied: "You men of the south don't know Lincoln. There is only one man living who could have written that address and his name is Abraham Lincoln."

IOWA COURTS ESTABLISHED

The Supreme Court of Iowa Territory was constituted by an act of Congress of June 12, 1838 entitled, "An Act to divide the Territory of Wisconsin and to establish the territorial government of Iowa." By this organic law it was provided that the judicial power of the territory of Iowa should be vested in a Supreme Court, District Courts, etc.; that the Supreme Court should con-

⁵In "*Reminiscences of Jeremiah Sullivan Black*," prepared and published by his daughter, Mary Black Clayton, she states that her father commenced to write an autobiography which was never finished, but from which she quotes: "My competitors were exceedingly formidable men; half a dozen of them achieved great reputation in public life, and some were well known for their talents. I need not give you any extended account of them, but will enumerate them and mention some of their characteristics." Of what was set down concerning Judge Williams follows: "Joseph Williams was a practicing lawyer whose ready tact was very dangerous to an opponent, and he was well up in the books. After he left Somerset he became Chief Justice of Iowa, and later was a federal judge in Kansas. He never got over his fondness for fun, but he performed his judicial duties worthily and well for he was a sincere lover of justice. These are the men whose competition I had to face; my seniors and superiors in everything that makes practical power."—*ANNALS OF IOWA*, p. 165, Vol. VII.

sist of a chief justice and two associate judges; that they should hold their offices for a term of four years and should hold a term at the seat of government of the said territory annually. The act further provided that the territory should be divided into three judicial districts and that a district court should be held in each of the three districts by one of the judges of the Supreme Court at such times and places as might be prescribed by law; and that the judges after their appointment should reside in the district assigned to them. The Supreme Court and district courts respectively were vested with a chancery, as well as a common law jurisdiction. It was further provided in the act that each of the said district courts should have and exercise the same jurisdiction in all cases arising under the constitution and laws of the United States as is vested in the United States circuit and district courts. Under this act the president, by and with the consent of the senate, nominated Charles Mason chief justice and Joseph Williams and Thomas S. Wilson associate judges.⁶

The Territory of Iowa was, in compliance with the act, divided into three judicial districts, Polk County, Muscatine and Burlington being in the second district. Martin Van Buren was then President of the United States. Judge Black and President Van Buren were close personal friends, and Judge Black used his influence with the President in favor of Judge Williams, resulting in Judge Williams, as above stated, being appointed a judge of the Territorial Supreme Court of Iowa. The three judges above named were up for re-appointment in 1842, toward the end of their first four-year term. John Tyler had succeeded William Henry Harrison as President, and Judge Williams, in the interest of himself, and Chief Justice Mason and Justice

⁶ "When the separate Territory of Iowa was organized in 1838, the seven counties then organized were divided into three judicial districts, served by members of the territorial supreme court. It was a young judiciary: Chief Justice Charles Mason of New York was aged thirty-four, while Associate Justices Joseph Williams of Pennsylvania, was thirty-seven, and Thomas S. Wilson of Ohio, was twenty-five."—Remley J. Glass, in the *Pioneer Bench and Bar*, ANNALS OF IOWA, p. 4, Vol. XXIII.

Wilson, journeyed to Washington to see the President concerning their reappointment.

Edward H. Stiles in his *Reminiscences of Pioneer Lawyers of Iowa*, tells the story of Judge Williams experiences while on that journey and his interview with President Tyler:

On a morning in the latter part of the trip Judge Williams noticed on the stage just opposite him a handsome and charming lady. The judge naturally became acquainted with the lady and they conversed freely; and in the course of the conversation Judge Williams disclosed his name to her and the purpose of his trip to Washington, mentioning the names of his associates on the Iowa Supreme bench. When the stage reached Baltimore, the lady's stopping place, they parted company, and Judge Williams had not learned her name and did not know who she was. When he reached Washington, after due time he sought an interview with President Tyler, who received him very cordially and proceeded to converse with him in the most affable manner. The judge was somewhat embarrassed at this unexpected effusion of personal kindness, but after a while ventured to suggest the nature of his business. "O," replied the president, "that matter has already been attended to, and my secretary will hand you your commission."

"But," said Judge Williams after recovering himself sufficiently, "I shall not want the position unless my associates are also reappointed."

"O, that has been attended to also, and their commissions will be handed to you with your own. And by the way," said the president, "there is a lady acquaintance of yours in the next room who would like to see you."

Whereupon the folding doors were opened and Judge Williams was led into the presence of the lady he had parted company with at Baltimore, Mrs. John Tyler, the wife of the president, who was delighted to meet him again. She had arranged matters in advance with her husband, and Judge Williams went home rejoicing.

FIRST COURT HELD IN POLK COUNTY

The first court ever held in Polk county was the United States district court with Judge Williams presiding. This was at Fort Des Moines in April, 1846. The act requiring that the supreme judge assigned to a

particular district should reside in that district, and Judge Williams being assigned to the second district, he resided at Muscatine. Hence under the act we have a territorial supreme judge conducting court in Polk County as a judge of the United States district court.

There was no courthouse nor courtroom to receive him. The board of county commissioners met the situation by ordering that "No. 26 occupied by Miss Davis as a schoolroom be vacated for the approaching session." Number 26 was one of the barracks erected in 1843 for use of the garrison and was a part of old Fort Des Moines. Judge Williams' court remained in session but three days, and the business transacted was of a formal and perfunctory nature. The government was represented by Thomas Baker, United States district attorney, and John B. Lash, United States marshal. The clerk of the court was Perry L. Crossman, and the sheriff Thomas Mitchell, the latter having been elected by the voters of Polk county at the first county election in the spring of 1846.

The first procedure was a venire to the sheriff to "summon twenty-three good and lawful men to appear forthwith before said court to act as grand jurors in and for said county."

A jury was impaneled and retired to consider. After due deliberation the jury reported no true bills. The jury was discharged and the court adjourned. There being no official seal of the county, the court on the first day of the term ordered that, "the eagle side of a twenty-five cent piece of the American coin should be the temporary seal of the court in and for said County of Polk." One of the jurors, one Jeremiah Church, apologized to the court for the "uncouth and barbarous appearing set of men that constituted the jury." Whereupon Judge Williams wisely replied: "Men might have clean hearts under a dirty shirt."

Judge Williams held his second term of the United States district court in Polk county in September, 1846. There were several cases on the docket. No true bills

were returned. One William D. Frazee was admitted to the bar; also Phineas M. Casady, whose name as an outstanding citizen will ever be linked with the history of Polk county, was admitted to the bar and duly sworn in. Mr. Casady at that time was of the age of twenty-eight years.

POWERS AS A VENTRILOQUIST

It is related by the late Tacitus Hussey, a former Polk county historian of note, that while holding court at Des Moines Judge Williams sat at breakfast one morning at the Des Moines House. Several ladies and gentlemen were present at the table. One of the ladies present was a Mrs. Warner whose infant daughter Hattie was sleeping upstairs. Judge Williams, through his art of ventriloquy, imitated a baby crying as if upstairs. Mrs. Warner hastily left the table and rushed upstairs. In her absence the judge advised the party at the table of the joke he was playing on Mrs. Warner. She quickly returned to the table saying, "I was sure that I heard Hattie crying, but I found her sleeping just like a little angel." Upon being advised of the joke, she joined in the merriment. It may be said in passing that baby Hattie became the wife of Hoyt Sherman, Jr., nephew of Major Hoyt Sherman, and for many years Hattie Sherman was one of the most prominent and outstanding women of Des Moines.

Just prior to Iowa's entering statehood the second four-year term of the Territorial supreme court was about to expire, and again Judge Williams and his associates on the Supreme bench were reappointed by the then President, James K. Polk.

Iowa became a state in 1846. The new constitution of Iowa provided that the supreme court should consist of a chief justice and two associate judges, to be elected by the joint session of the general assembly. They were to hold their offices for six years. The first general assembly deadlocked and thus failed to elect judges, and in that event the law provided that the governor make the ap-

pointments. Previous to the July term, 1847, Chief Justice Mason and Justice Williams resigned as Territorial Judges, and Governor Ansel Briggs appointed Judge Williams Chief Justice, and Judge Charles Mason and John F. Kinney associate justices. Judge Williams was later elected by the general assembly for another term of six years. He retired from the supreme bench early in 1855, having served seven years as associate supreme judge while Iowa was a territory, and eight years as chief justice during statehood. He was succeeded by Chief Justice George G. Wright.

In 1857 Kansas became a territory, and President James Buchanan, upon the recommendation of Judge Black, appointed Judge Williams as territorial supreme court judge of the new Kansas territory, and Judge Williams moved to Fort Scott, Kansas, and assumed his new duties as judge of the supreme court of that territory. During the first term of the administration of President Lincoln, supposedly upon the recommendation of Judge Black, Judge Williams was appointed by President Lincoln judge of the United States district court at Memphis, Tennessee, the court at Memphis being deemed a military necessity. Upon his retirement from the United States district court at Memphis, Judge Williams returned to Fort Scott, Kansas, taking up his residence there, where he died on March 31, 1870.

It is related that Judge Williams, while chief justice of the Iowa supreme court, paid a visit to the east and called at the office of his old friend Judge Black, who was then chief justice of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. He found Judge Black absent, and left the following note on his desk:

The Chief Justice of Iowa salutes the Chief Justice of Pennsylvania.

O, Jere, dear Jere, I've found you at last;

Now memory is burdened with scenes of the past.

Restore me to Somerset's mountains of snow,

When you were but Jere, when I was but Joe.

JUDGES IMMORTALIZED IN SLAVE DECISION

The territorial supreme court decided many very important and difficult cases, but attention will be called to but one. A case decided by our territorial supreme court is found as the first case reported in Volume 1, Morris, of our state supreme court reports, that case being entitled "In the matter of Ralph, a colored man, on habeas corpus." Ralph, being within the territory, was claimed by Montgomery, a resident of Missouri, as a slave, and by virtue of a precept from the justice of the peace and certain proceedings pursuant to statute being had before him, the sheriff of Dubuque county delivered the negro into the custody of the claimant for the purpose of being transported to Missouri. Ralph was afterwards brought before the judge of the third judicial district by a writ of habeas corpus, from whence, by consent of the parties, the proceedings were transferred to the supreme court upon an agreed statement of facts in substance as follows:

That in 1834 Ralph being a slave of the claimant, a written agreement was entered into between them by which Ralph was permitted to come into this territory to reside, he on his part stipulating to pay the claimant \$550 with interest from the first day of January, 1835, as the price of his freedom; that it was to earn the purchase price that Ralph had been laboring in the mines near Dubuque, which Ralph failed to pay.

Two Virginians at Dubuque who knew of the agreement volunteered to deliver Ralph to his former owner for \$100. Montgomery accepted the offer. Ralph was seized and handcuffed and taken to Bellevue to be sent by steamer to Missouri. A farmer working in his field saw the kidnaping and hastened to the office of Judge Thomas S. Wilson of the supreme court and demanded a writ of habeas corpus, which Judge Wilson promptly issued and served, by which Ralph was returned to Dubuque. The case was one of so much importance that at the request of Judge Wilson it was transferred to the supreme court for trial. After a full hearing it was

unanimously decided that Montgomery's contract with Ralph, wherein he was permitted to become a citizen of a free territory, liberated him, as slavery did not and could not exist in Iowa. Judge Mason, with Judge Williams and Judge Wilson concurring, in part said:

Where a slave with his master's consent becomes a resident of a free state or territory he could not be regarded as a fugitive slave nor could the master under such circumstances exercise any rights of ownership over him. When the master applies to our tribunal for the purpose of controlling as property that which our laws have declared shall not be property, it is incumbent upon them to refuse their cooperation.

All honor to the wisdom and sense of justice of these pioneer judges immortalizing their names in an opinion in direct conflict with the infamous later decision of the highest tribunal in the land, in the case of Dred Scott.

It should be related that Charles Mason, the chief justice, who wrote the foregoing opinion, was a native of Pompey, New York. He was born in 1804 and died at Burlington, Iowa, in 1882. He was a graduate of West Point in the Class of 1829; he ranked Number One in his class. General Robert E. Lee was a class mate. He was considered by the legal fraternity as a great and able jurist.

Judge Williams had the unusual distinction of having been appointed to judicial position by five different Presidents of the United States. The order of the appointments is as follows: Martin Van Buren, John Tyler, James K. Polk, James Buchanan and Abraham Lincoln. In addition to his presidential appointments he was appointed as chief justice of the Iowa supreme court by Governor Ansel Briggs, and elected once to the same position for a term of six years by the general assembly of our state.

The published opinions of the Iowa territorial supreme court are found in Volume I, Morris. The opinions of Judge Williams as chief justice of the Iowa state supreme court are found in Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4, Green, Iowa Supreme Court Reports.

CONTEMPORARY APPRECIATION

Judge Wright, again speaking of Judge Williams, said:

In conversational powers he was unsurpassed and possessed social powers which charmed and captivated the high and the low. He made impressions which will last while the state endures and left monuments which will remain so long as our judicial records shall be read.

Henry O'Connor, attorney general, said: "Judge Williams was able and a learned lawyer, his character above any eulogy of gratitude. His faith in humanity was less only than his faith in God."

When the supreme court room was opened in the new capitol at Des Moines many visiting lawyers were present. Among them was Judge Samuel F. Miller of the United States supreme court, said to have been the greatest constitutional lawyer since John Marshall. In his remarks on that occasion Judge Miller referred to Judge Williams, saying he regarded him as one of the "clearest and most intuitive and best judges that had ever graced the supreme bench of Iowa;" that his decisions had operated as an important factor in properly molding the jurisprudence of the state; that because of his peculiarities and great love of social life Judge Williams was never appreciated by the bar; that his opinions show a "clear head and an honest heart."⁷

In 1856 David Paul Brown, the then great criminal lawyer of Philadelphia, prepared and published a book entitled *The Forum*. Edw. H. Stiles states in the *ANNALS OF IOWA*, p. 165, Vol. VII that Brown's references were mostly to men who had gained a reputation at the bar, quoting from pages 375 and 376, Vol. II, the following to show that Mr. Williams was regarded as one belonging to that class, as well as to show Mr. Williams himself in the role of a practitioner:

"Before Mr. Williams was appointed United States judge for the territory of Iowa, he was defending a client in the interior of Pennsylvania, against the claim of a quack doctor who professed everything and knew nothing, and who had instituted a suit for surgical services, and had marked the suit to the use of another, in order to become a witness himself. The following was the cross-examination:

"Mr. Williams: 'Did you treat the patient according to the most improved principles of surgery?' Witness: 'By all means, certainly I did.'

"Mr. Williams: 'Did you decapitate him?' Witness: 'Undoubtedly I did—that was a matter of course.'

"Mr. Williams: 'Did you perform the Caesarian operation upon him?' Witness: 'Why, of course; his condition required it, and it was attended with great success.'

"Mr. Williams: 'Did you, now Doctor, subject his person to an autopsy?' Witness: 'Certainly; that was the last remedy adopted.'

"Mr. Williams: 'Well, then, Doctor, as you performed a post-mortem operation upon the defendant, and he survived it, I have no more to ask, and if your claim will survive it, quackery deserves to be immortal.'

Edward H. Stiles in his notes on *Pioneer Lawyers of Iowa*, in referring to Judge Williams, said:

His unique grace, his versatile talents, his varied accomplishments, his keen sense of humor, his early transition from the grave to the gay, his amusing anecdotes, his charming presence, his delightful talks, his strong sense of justice, his unbounded generosity have been told and retold orally and through newspapers and periodicals for half a century.

The writer has endeavored to tell at least a part of the story of the life of Judge Joseph Williams, a judge whose opinions "show a clear head, an honest heart, and whose decisions operated as an important factor in properly molding the jurisprudence of our state."

The generation of three quarters of a century ago knew much of the history of Judge Williams; the present generation knows little or nothing of him. In gathering this history the writer was compelled to resort largely to the musty volumes of old books and glean from their somewhat faded pages this romantic story of a somewhat romantic character who materially aided as a pioneer judge in laying the foundation of our jurisprudence on the bedrock of human rights.

The tumult and the shouting dies,
The captains and the kings depart.
Still stands thine ancient sepulchre,
A simple and a contrite heart.

Lord God of hosts, be with us yet,
Lest we forget, lest we forget.

PRESERVING OUR NATIONAL HERITAGE

By PHILLIP D. JORDAN*

Twice within twelve months, *The New York Times*, the most distinguished newspaper published in the United States, has charged that American students are ignorant of the story of their own history and their own national heritage.¹ The *Times*, apparently suspecting that educational institutions in the United States had gradually swung away from the thesis that United States history was important for American citizens, conducted two surveys which were directed by Benjamin Fine, educational editor of the *Times*.

Although the results of these surveys were challenged, they seemed to confirm what many historians had suspected for years. During the past quarter century it was not uncommon to hear on many lips the phrase that "history was on the way out," that "United States history was not practical," and that what was needed were more courses of a "utilitarian" nature. Such courses of instruction would deal with contemporary problems, such as present-day standards of living, poverty, crime, current political trends, and analyses of today's economic difficulties. The orientation course and the course which attempted to "integrate" or to "fuse" all phases of knowledge—sociology, government, economics, history, literature, geography, and even religion and philosophy—were conceived as substitutes for a knowledge of the basic development and maturity of the American way and of American ideals. The *Times* survey seemed to confirm and make real the impression that courses in the history of the United States were none too popular either with students or with educators.

The *Times*, believing that its survey statistics were

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¹The *New York Times*, June 21, 1942; April 4, 1943. See also Philip D. Jordan's "The New York Times Survey of United States History" in *The Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, September, 1942 and his "Is American History on the Way Out?" in *The Chronicles of Oklahoma*, March, 1943.

correct and that its interpretations were justified, said that:

College freshmen throughout the nation reveal a striking ignorance of even the most elementary aspects of United States history, and know almost nothing about many important phases of this country's growth and development.

Last June [1942] a survey conducted by the New York Times revealed that 82 per cent of the colleges of this country do not require the teaching of United States history for the undergraduate degree.

One of the conclusions from the present study is that the students are in need of United States history on the college or university level, even though they have taken courses in this field in high school.

More impressive than the lack of knowledge is the amount of misinformation that the survey disclosed.

A large majority of the college freshmen showed that they had virtually no knowledge of elementary aspects of American history. They could not identify such names as Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, Andrew Jackson, or Theodore Roosevelt, and they had little conception of the significant trends that have made the United States the Nation it is today.²

The surveys brought to light other illuminating data: many more freshmen were taking courses in history other than that of the United States; more public colleges and universities demand United States history as a prerequisite for entrance than private or denominational colleges; by and large United States history is not required for the undergraduate or graduate degree in "any of the colleges or universities with the possible exception of the teachers colleges where nearly one-half did make it compulsory"; liberal arts colleges and universities "which account for most of the undergraduate students in the United States, are more opposed to the compulsory teaching of United States history than any of the other educational groups"; it "would seem . . . that in a little more than half the teacher training centers of this country men and women can be licensed for

²The New York Times, April 4, 1943; see also *Congressional Record*, April 6, 1943, 2998-3009; "Survey of United States History in Colleges and Schools," *Sen. Doc. 26, 78 cong., 1st sess., Washington, D. C., 1943.*

teaching positions without having had any course in United States history, either on the secondary or collegiate level"; United States history, in most institutions, is not a required subject for students majoring in economics or sociology; students majoring in government, for the most part, found that they were obliged to take courses dealing with the history of the United States; and some college presidents or administrators were in favor of making United States history courses compulsory.

STORMS OF CRITICISM FOLLOW FINDINGS

Findings such as they, as might be expected, brought waves of approval and storms of criticism. The National Education Association, the past president of the National Association of Manufacturers, men in public office, and educators approved the spirit of the surveys.³ The *Saturday Review of Literature* remarked, as did many other Americans, that "It would be a pity if our colleges lagged behind in furnishing through courses in history the most essential basis for successful building of the future—a knowledge of the past."⁴ Journalists, such as Dorothy Thompson and William McDermott, expressed themselves in favor of adequate instruction in history,⁵ and competent authors and historians, such as Bernard De Voto, supported the findings of the *Times* surveys.⁶ The matter was debated on the floor of the Senate of the United States.⁷

Not all sentiment, however, throughout the nation approved either the method or the results of the two *Times* surveys. Erling M. Hunt, editor of *Social Education*, thought the history test given by the *Times* to about 7,000 students was "weak in its exclusive attention to memory."⁸ Other individuals charged that the

³The *New York Times*, June 28, 30; July 3; Sept. 13; 1942.

⁴The *Saturday Review of Literature*, Sept. 5, 1942, 10.

⁵Cincinnati *Enquirer*, April 9, 14; May 10, 1943; Cleveland *Plain-Dealer*, April 10, 1943.

⁶Bernard De Voto, "The Easy Chair," *Harper's Magazine*, July, 1943.

⁷Congressional Record, April 6, 10, 1943.

⁸The *New York Times*, April 6, 1943.

test was weak mechanically, that students did not answer test questions seriously, that the findings did not represent the true condition in schools, and that the *Times* survey was "one of the biggest hoaxes in American history."⁹ Soon some significant literature was appearing which argued the controversy *pro* and *con*.¹⁰

By this time the issue had been joined and both sides were engaged in heated controversy.¹¹ Not for a quarter of a century had the history of the United States received so much attention. Even the conservative historical associations of the nation began to take an active interest. On April 24, 1943, the Mississippi Valley Historical Association meeting in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, passed a resolution which called for the appointment of a committee "to study the current controversy concerning the teaching of American history and prepare a report consisting of a description and analysis of the situation, a statement of principles, and such specific recommendations as seem warranted."¹²

SURVEY COMMITTEE STARTS TASK

Within a month this program was underway and it was announced that the American Historical Association, the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, and the National Council for the Social Studies had been granted the sum of \$10,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation for a comprehensive survey of the history and social studies program in American schools and colleges. A committee of historians and educators headed by Dr. Edgar B. Wesley of the University of Minnesota was appointed for this task.¹³

It must not be thought, however, that the safety of

⁹*The New York Times*, April 8, 1943.

¹⁰Allan Nevins, "American History for Americans," *New York Times Magazine*, May 3, 1942, and "More American History; A Letter," *Social Education*, December, 1942; Erling Hunt, "More American History," *ibid.*, October, 1942 and "American History in Democratic Education," *ibid.*, December, 1942; Charles A. Beard, "A Challenge to Educational Leaders," *The Civic Leader*, September 28, 1942; Edgar B. Wesley, "History in the School Curriculum," *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, March, 1943.

¹¹*The New York Times*, April 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20, 1943.

¹²*The New York Times*, April 25, 1943.

¹³*The New York Times*, June 23, 1943.

the national heritage may be preserved only by the press, research foundations, teachers and historical associations. "Mr. and Mrs. America" also have a responsibility if history is not to be tossed into the discard. Their obligation is to interest themselves in history and to stimulate their children to an appreciation of the national heritage. They must also urge the younger generation to register for courses in the narrative of their nation in the grade school, the secondary school, and in the college and university. The democratic process cannot be fully understood without reference to the historical pattern.¹⁴ And "Mr. and Mrs. America" must assume the responsibility of impressing upon local school administrators and teachers the significance and functional value of American history. Frequently the Parent-Teachers Association may serve as a vehicle to carry this lesson to both administrator and classroom instructor. The public interest makes emphasis upon history mandatory.¹⁵

There are other ways by which a knowledge of the American past may be brought to students and to the public. State historical societies can be of great assistance by disseminating knowledge of local history in their journals, by supplying village, county, city, and state newspapers with feature stories dealing with local background and prominent figures who played a major role in the political, social, and cultural activities of the state, by sponsoring essay contests among lower grade and high school pupils, and by furnishing speakers to luncheon clubs and other organizations. Not the least of the significant contributions of the state historical societies are the library and reference rooms where citizens may be guided with sympathetic encouragement in their personal research problems.

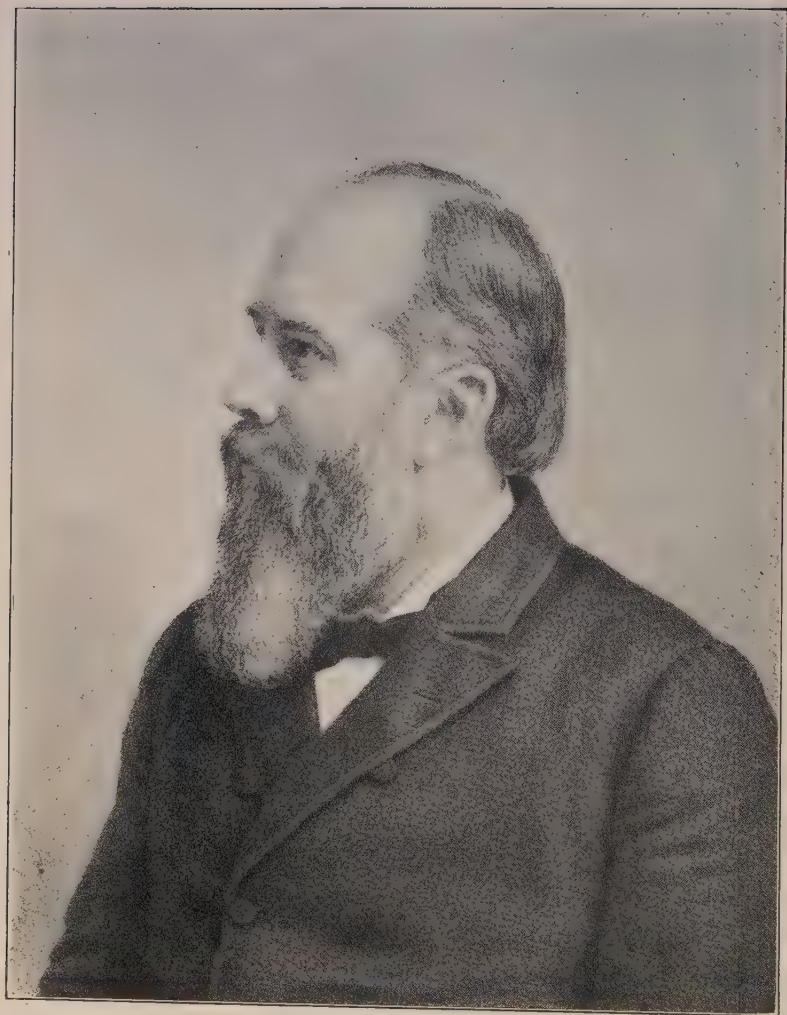
¹⁴Educational Policies Commission, *The Purposes of Education in American Democracy* (Washington, D. C. 1938), chap. 2.

¹⁵Educational Policies Commission, *The Unique Function of Education in American Democracy* (Washington, D. C., 1937), 5.

PROFESSIONAL HISTORIANS TO RENEW FAITH

Whatever may be the long-time results of the two surveys undertaken by *The New York Times*, one thing must be said: the *Times* has performed an invaluable public and patriotic service in exposing the place of United States history in American education and in compelling professional historians to evaluate not only the content, but also the importance, of their own subject. It seems fairly certain that the people of the nation want their children to know the story of their own land. Historians who have been timid and who have felt that United States history "is on the way out" should renew their own faith in their subject and work toward making American history more and more available to the younger generation.

Formal training in United States history, of course, does not necessarily guarantee love of country and competent citizenship. Many Americans who have never been "trained" in the history of the nation perform their duties in local communities and at the polls with honesty and vigor. And many more citizens who have had only grade and secondary instruction in the narrative of their country function admirably. In short, required courses in any subject, although they may aid in determining attitudes, cannot guarantee individual proficiency. Even the *Times* pointed out editorially that it would be "unrealistic to believe that a course in American history can work miracles." On the other hand, it is difficult to see how courses in United States history could do harm. President Roosevelt put the issue squarely when he said: ". . . a nation must believe in three things. It must believe in the past. It must believe in the future. It must, above all, believe in the capacity of its people to learn from the past that they can gain in judgment for the creation of the future."



FREDERIK LANGE GRUNDTVIG

A Magnetic Leader and Minister in the Danish Lutheran Church

FREDERIK LANGE GRUNDTVIG

By THOMAS P. CHRISTENSEN¹

One of the most romantic characters in Danish-American history is Frederik Lange Grundtvig, dreamer, poet, naturalist, minister, and promoter of Danish-American ideals.

Frederik Lange was the youngest son of Nicolaj Frederik Severin Grundtvig, the most striking personality in Nineteenth Century Denmark, and through him a scion of the famous Skjalm Hvide family—the Adams family of Denmark. His mother, Marie Toft Grundtvig, was the heiress to a large country estate. He lived a sheltered life in childhood, for he attended neither public nor private school, being educated at home. But among his playmates were children of royal blood.

At the age of twenty-two he entered the University of Copenhagen where he remained five years, studying first one year of philosophy and then four years of political science. In none of these branches of learning did he afterwards distinguish himself. But he had by-interests which became permanent pursuits. Already as a student in Copenhagen he had written readable poetry, and his love of nature study—botany and ornithology—had been awakened.

After his graduation in 1881 his botanical excursions carried him far afield. On one of these trips he visited the country estate Tyllinge in southern Sweden, "beautiful Tyllinge" as he not without reason called it; for there he met, wooed and won the fair Birgitte Christina Nilsson.

The young Grundtvigs thought first of buying an estate in Sweden or Denmark, but finally the young lovers decided upon something both more daring and romantic, the story of which reads like a tale out of the Middle Ages. Instead of settling down at home they packed their trunks for a honeymoon on far-off Tahiti

¹This study has been based on the chapter on Grundtvig in the author's unpublished doctor's thesis *A History of the Danes in Iowa* (1924).

in the South Pacific; but, for some reason or other, they got no farther than Shiocton, Outagamie county, Wisconsin. There they bought a little farm and settled down to a secluded life in the greenwoods. While they farmed in a small way, Grundtvig spent much time hunting and studying the birds of the locality. Mrs. Grundtvig tried bravely to speak English with the neighbors' children. Both frequently went berrying and boating.

It was a red-letter day in the little farm home when the Danish minister, Reverend Thorvald Helveg and his wife from Neenah, Winnebago county, were visitors. Grundtvig and Helveg became life-long friends, and this friendship served as one of the determining factors when Grundtvig decided to become a minister.

According to Grundtvig's own statements he had not taken his young bride to the greenwoods of Wisconsin merely to spend their honeymoon, but also to have time to contemplate what his life work should be. His friendship with Helveg resulted in bringing to his attention the need of educated ministers for the Danish immigrants often living in secluded settlements; and, so it seemed to Grundtvig, reverting in some cases to a kind of barbarism.

Accordingly he began the study of theology privately—there was at that time no Danish Lutheran theological seminary in the United States—and some time after presented himself for examination to the directors of the Danish Lutheran church. Passing this satisfactorily in 1883, he accepted a call from then St. Johannes congregation in Clinton, Iowa, and there the Grundtvigs had their hospitable home during the following seventeen years.

SECRET SOCIETY CAUSED DIVISION

At the time that Grundtvig entered the ministry a controversy was raging in the Danish church because of the rise of a Danish fraternal organization under the name of the Danish Brotherhood. Like other American lodges it was organized mainly for the purpose of mutual

aid through cooperative life insurance, sickness and funeral aids; but it also had secondary social aims. The most objectionable features of the society to some of the Danish Lutheran church members, were its secrecy and ritual, which to them seemed little short of idolatry. Grundtvig entered heartily into this controversy. He read widely anti-masonic literature and soon posed as the champion against "all that fiendishness of which free-masonry is the head." Like other Scandinavian Lutherans—the Swedish, for instance—he favored the exclusion of lodge members from the church. But although on that point he completely dominated some of the annual church meetings, he was not able to carry exclusion through as a general church policy. Yet, it was adopted by his own congregation. Grundtvig's easily kindled enthusiasm perhaps carried him farther than his calmer judgment would sanction, and it may be that he admitted this to lodge members. Certain it is, that he had friends in "the camp of the enemy," friends who admired him for his devotion to the preservation of Danish life and culture in a foreign land.

It was, however, this devotion which brought about the theological dispute between the two factions in the Danish church—the Inner Mission People and the Grundtvigians—to the breaking point. The question in dispute was whether the Apostolic Creed or the Scriptures should be given preference in the church. Holding to the former of these contentions and denying the latter, the strict Grundtvigians appeared to the strict Inner Mission People as little better than heretics. Grundtvig increased the tensivity of the situation when he and others in 1887 organized the Danish People's Society, which aimed at the union of all Danish-Americans *not opposed* to the Church for the purpose of preserving the Danish language, life, and culture in the United States. Since a large number of the Grundtvigians became members of the People's Society, the Inner Mission People saw in the establishment of the society an attempt to unite Thor and Jesus, nationality and Christianity, worldliness and

godliness; and when personal animosities capped the climax of the controversy and made of the Danish church a house divided against itself, the inevitable split came in 1894.

This necessary, but deplorable event broke the heart of many a Danish minister. It sent Helveg back to Denmark, never to return permanently. It also made Grundtvig think of returning. He was offered the pastorate at the Marble church in Copenhagen, a very tempting offer. But he decided to remain in Clinton.

The church controversy gave Grundtvig one of the strong interests of his maturer years. It made him turn to the original writings of the Church Fathers for proof of his father's contention that the Apostolic Creed had been given to the apostles by Christ. All he found, however, was that the Creed had been transmitted orally among the Christians—though not necessarily in its present form—in the 2nd, 3d, and 4th centuries A. D. Most of the results of his researches were published in Denmark. In appreciation of this great work his own congregation presented him a collection of the writings of the Church Fathers, worth several hundred dollars.

The split in 1894 at first seemed to have cleared the way for the building of a Danish university (college) in the United States. Such an institution was also projected to be located in Grand View addition, Des Moines, Iowa. Much to the regret of Grundtvig, it was soon apparent that it could not be fully realized. The school became Grand View college, a theological seminary in combination with a folk high school. In time the latter gave way to a regular four-year high school department, and this again to a junior college in 1925. In Des Moines the school was long known as the Danish College.²

Though Grundtvig was a minister and loved by his congregation and others whom he served in a ministerial capacity, he will chiefly be remembered as an inspirer

²After the split in 1894 the Inner Mission People joined another Lutheran group to form the United Danish Lutheran Church, which maintains Dana College at Blair, Nebraska. Dana College is the only Danish-American four-year college, and Grand View College is the only two-year college in the United States.

of Danish-American spiritual ideals, in connection with his work as lecturer, poet, and colonizer. His studies of bird life in Wisconsin and Iowa stood him in good stead in writing some of his songs, many of which have a background of American scenery. In one of these songs (The drifting clouds in the west shed blood) he has used the call of the whip-poor-will with striking effect. The bird's call transcribed by the poet: "If you are willing," is the burden of the song and the poet's answer to the question whether the Danish immigrant can conserve his spiritual heritage in America. Several of Grundtvig's songs were printed in his "Song-book for the Danish-American People." For this work, he and others also adapted numerous Danish songs so that they could be used by Danish-Americans with less distorting of facts. The nature of these changes is well illustrated in the adaptation, in which the adaptor changed the lines: "I will not leave my home in the north nor exchange it for another on earth" to suit the Danish immigrant who had come to stay in the United States. The Songbook passed through several editions; and, in spite of numerous changes and additions, it continued to bear Grundtvig's name. It is used not only by the Grundtvigians at their gatherings, other than religious, but by other Danish-Americans as well. It is Grundtvig's chief contribution to the conservation and development of a Danish-American spiritual heritage.

The formation of Danish colonies according to definite, pre-arranged plans had begun about ten years before Grundtvig came to Wisconsin. He saw the value of such group undertakings and advocated the establishment of colonies by the Danish church. The founding of the colony in Lincoln county, Minnesota, was to a large extent his work. He was present at the celebration of its establishment in 1885. For this occasion he wrote one of his most beautiful songs, ("We turned our prows from the Fatherland's Shore") still frequently sung by the people of the Danish church.

A DANEDOM PROGRAM CRIPPLED

Under the auspices of the Danish People's Society, in 1887, Grundtvig and his friends presented a definite program for Danish-Americans. They appealed to all who loved Denmark, its language, culture and life, to help to conserve and develop Danedom through the establishment of the People's Society which was to encourage the founding and maintenance of Danish lecture courses, social centers or homes, libraries, schools, churches, and colonies among the Danish immigrants. Cooperation with the Swedes and Norwegians in the United States was sought; and the founders of the Society expressed their interest in and love of their adopted country. As we have seen, the growth of the Society was stunted by the controversy within the Danish church, and seriously crippled by the split in 1894. But it is still functioning, and has subsequently to Grundtvig's death in 1903, added two colonies to its credit.

Grundtvig's program for Danish-Americans was broad. Even in church matters he did not want the Danish church to shut itself up tightly within its own organization. At least on one occasion he expressed himself clearly in favor of cooperation with even non-Lutheran churches. He constantly advocated fidelity to the United States which he loved to call "the Rendezvous of Nations" (*Folkestaevnets Land*), implying of course, his faith in the future of the Great Republic as a land of wonderful possibilities through the mingling of the blood and culture of many nations, all living under a free government.

Grundtvig's death came at the untimely age of forty-eight, while he and his family were visiting in Denmark. He had expected to return to the United States, the land where he had dreamed and realized to a certain extent, the dreams of his maturer years; and where his only daughter had been born. There he had hoped for a further span of years of useful service at the projected university of the Danish church in Des Moines.

Though something of a dilettante as a scholar and an

organizer, Grundtvig was a power to reckon with in any cause he undertook to support. He had a magnetic personality. His ancestry and his name threw a glamour about everything that he said and wrote. The simplicity and sincerity of his religious faith made him loved by all classes of Danish Lutherans. His insistence on the value and beauty of Danedom made enemies for him among certain classes of Danish Lutherans, but it also made friends for him in circles much wider than the limits of the Danish Church. Jacob A. Riis may be a better-known Danish-American among Americans in general. But among Danish-Americans there have been few leaders remembered with more gratitude than Frederik Lange Grundtvig.

BUFFALO BILL'S BIRTH DATE

In the ANNALS OF IOWA July 1929 there was published a very interesting article about the "The Codys in Le Claire," written by Prof. F. M. Fryxell, of Augustana college, Rock Island, in large part an interview with Col. J. D. Barnes, a pioneer of Le Claire. In this it was stated that Col. William Frederick Cody was born at Le Claire, Iowa, February 26, 1845. He was born in the modest old home of Isaac Cody, at Le Claire, which home has since been moved by the Burlington railroad to Cody, Wyoming. Some discussion has arisen as to the correctness of the birth date of the colonel. In writings by Col. Cody's two sisters the date is given as 1846, though on the tombstone it is given as 1845. At the request of H. S. Cody of Winston-Salem, N. C. and at the suggestion of Prof. Fryxell, the census of 1850, which is a part of the Iowa archives, has been consulted and it is there set down that in 1850, the age of William F. was 4 years, which would make the 1846 date correct. It is stated that the family bible record confirms this also. The date of 1845 given in the ANNALS OF IOWA fourteen years ago was from the recollection of Colonel Barnes, who could easily have been in error.

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

The convention of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association for this year was held in Cedar Rapids April 22-23, 1943. The program was filled with interesting addresses and discussions, covering a wide range of historical topics, presented by able students of history from many colleges and universities, and the attendance was excellent. The association was formed with the advice and assistance of Edgar R. Harlan, former curator of the Iowa State Department of History and Archives, and at the close of the Cedar Rapids meeting, Prof. Louis B. Schmidt, of the Iowa State college, paid brief tribute to Mr. Harlan as follows:

Edgar Rubey Harlan devoted thirty years of his life to the cause of building for his beloved state of Iowa the State Historical Department. This department has more recently been designated officially as the Iowa State Department of History and Archives.

The founder of the department was Charles Aldrich who appointed Harlan as his assistant. Aldrich was succeeded by Harlan as curator in 1908. This position he held until his retirement in 1937.

The department had a modest beginning in the Aldrich collection of manuscripts and autographs which Harlan built up by the addition of books, newspapers, manuscripts, historical paintings, and materials relating to the early fauna and flora of Iowa and to the geology of the state

Indian life and Indian culture later became Harlan's chief hobby. He obtained through his friendship with the Sac and Fox Indians in Iowa a valuable collection of materials relating to the customs and the lore and the language of these tribes.

Mr. Harlan built up the Archives division and the rare collections of state documents which are of great historical interest and value. He also took an active interest in the marking of historic spots and trails in Iowa and in the Iowa State park movement.

The Iowa State Department of History and Archives is largely Harlan's title to an enduring place in Iowa history. It is a credit to him and to the state which he served so loyally and so successfully.

We pay tribute to Mr. Harlan, not only for his distinguished service as curator of this agency for the collection and preservation of the materials of history, but also for his interest and activity in the promotion of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association of which he was one of the founders and charter members and at one time also its president.

AN IOWA LAND "BARGAIN" A CENTURY AGO

(The original of this letter is filed in the Manuscript Division of the Iowa State Department of History and Archives, dated October 19, 1843, addressed to Anson Sperry, Chicago, Ill., afterwards residing at Marengo, Ill., from his sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Sperry Roberts, wife of Iowa's Lieutenant Colonel, 1844-46, and Mexican War hero.)

Fort Madison, Oct. 19, 1843

Dear Brother: Perhaps you think we have been negligent in writing, but I am not quite prepared to plead guilty to the charge, for I have been waiting from day to day in hopes to know if we conclude to stay here or not. But I am as wise now as when we first arrived here.

When we arrived here Mr. R. found a letter from President Wylie of the Indiana institution at Bloomington, saying that he (Mr. R) had been recommended by Bishop Kemper to the University as professor of mathematics, salary \$1,000 a year cash or town scrip, which was as good as \$1,100 cash. He desired him to come on, or send testimonials in time for a meeting of the board which was to convene at a certain period. Mr. R had no means of procuring testimonials here, and answered the letter immediately, but not in time for the meeting of the board. The letter had probably lain here some time, and there was but a week before the time appointed for the meeting and I believe ten days is the time required for a letter to reach there. He (Mr. R) was obliged to refer him to gentlemen East for testimonials and the consequent delay is probably the reason we do not hear, tho' we are in daily expectation of a letter. I think (Mr. R.) quite indifferent about going. There seems so good an opening in the territory for young men.

There seems an opening, too, for a good investment for R's \$100 which belongs to his name. I will try and tell you about it. A lawyer here, Mr. Reeves, had been employed by a creditor of a half-breed to collect a personal debt of said half-breed by an execution on his claim. It had been sold—or rather he bought it in on behalf of the creditor for \$225. It is an entire claim

of 1125 acres all lying within three or four miles of Old Fort Des Moines, except fifteen town lots in the town of Keokuk, which is at the foot of the rapids and two in Nashville, another town on the rapids. The land is most of it under improvement, and several small log houses on them, and we are told that the settlers will be very glad to sell their improvements for a portion of the land and will sell very low, too. Mr. Reeves, the lawyer, already owns a large amount of land in the same tract, as much as 20,000 acres and does not care to own more; besides there is a law forbidding lawyers to take advantage of such opportunities, connected with their clients. He has a sheriff's deed and tax title to the claim and there is but one drawback, but I believe that is not deemed a serious one. There was a law passed that enough land should be sold to defray the expenses of surveying and dividing the tract, a debt due the commissioners and they sold the whole tract to liquidate that debt. It was bought in by Mr. Reeves, another lawyer here, for \$2,000 or \$3,000. Mr. R. says he cannot hold it on that purchase, and aware of the fact, relinquished to settlers his claim upon their paying a portion of their share of the money he spent in buying it in and something more for time and money spent, and he makes money at that. Another objection is, its proximity to Nauvoo, which is directly opposite and they are said to be very troublesome as thieves and trespassers.

The opportunity is not known generally and Mr. R. wishes it kept quiet until we can communicate with Pe, [Pa] and he hopes to be able to join in the purchase. There is an opportunity till March of judgment creditors, if there are any, to redeem at 25 per cent, but in that case it will be a handsome advance on his money. Perhaps R. will like your opinion before he decides. We rode past some of the land yesterday and there is none finer in the world. One farm lies on the shore of the Mississippi and takes in an island which lies very near the main land.

Of our journey over here nothing of moment occurred.

We had pleasant weather and came on till Friday as well as when we left on that day. Our dear little Rufus was taken more unwell, and continued so until we arrived now (Saturday noon) tho' not alarmingly so. We immediately called in a physician however, and he continued to fail until Wednesday morning about 4 o'clock in the morning when he breathed his last. It is a great trial to lose so dear an one, yet I could not ask him back; for is he not an angel and unmoved from [by] the trials and vexations of this life? And when I think of the shortness and uncertainty of human lives and the great work we have to do in preparing for eternity, the obstacles we have to contend with in our own wayward hearts,—the certainty I feel that my two children are in the haven to which we all ought to be bound—seems to call for gratitude rather than repining. Yet is the flesh weak—God grant when our short life is over we may join many dear friends whom we have a realizable hope are with the saints on high.

Could I hear that Pe [Pa] had made up his mind to the resolutions you have adopted how happy should I feel. I wish you would write him. I hope to hear that Cousin Mark has at least concluded to live for eternity rather than time. He has had a loud call as well as the rest of us, "be Ye also ready for in such an hour as Ye know not the Son of Man cometh."

Ma has had your pantaloons ready and been waiting some time for an opportunity to send them. One of our lawyers is going to Bloomington this territory to court next week and I am told Mr. Butterfield of your place will be there also. Ma will send the package to him. I should be glad if you have not despatched the box already, if you could do so by Mr. Butterfield, if he come by stage taking a receipt of the stage proprietor and request them to send it from there the first boat that comes down. If you cannot do that send it to Rock Island or Rockingham (I believe they are one and the same place). I am told that a stage runs from Chicago there in two days, and also that there are empty wheat

trains going back all the time and the box directed to the care of N. B. Buford, Rock Island, will be forwarded to us immediately. Unless the box will come very soon by a wheat train it is not best to trust it, for if we go to Indiana it will be important for us to get it soon. Please do not delay forwarding it.

Our other boxes are here and we are waiting with great impatience to hear from Indiana to go to house-keeping. Mr. R. says he will commence next week anyhow if he does not hear. Ma left a linen handkerchief where we dined the day we left Chicago at Geo. Bill's tavern. We asked Ira Buck to get it and carry it to you. Did you get it? Ma thinks you had better take that frock coat out of the box and get some woman to mend it. It is so seldom we find an opportunity to sending to you. Ma will write next week when she sends the package and we shall probably know if we go or stay by that time.

We have been to Nauvoo since we came. I presume Ma will write you about it when she writes you etc. I have not room. Write us soon and tell us all about everybody. Love to Cousin Mark and Coz. Libbie. Mr. R. joins me also wishes to be remembered to you.

Yours sister

E————



OLEY NELSON

Representative Twenty-first and Twenty-second Iowa
General Assemblies, 1886-1888
President Iowa Pioneer Lawmakers Association
1919-1920
State Commander Iowa Department G. A. R.
1927-1928
National Grand Commander G. A. R.
1935-1936

OLEY NELSON—AN UNFORGETTABLE CHARACTER

By JOHN P. HERRICK

One of the unforgettable characters I have met in the past decade was the late Oley Nelson of Slater, Iowa, one of the friendliest men I have ever known. Traveling together on a transcontinental train we found we had mutual friends in Iowa. One of them was my father-in-law, the late Lafayette Young, with whom he had served in the Iowa Assembly. They had been friends for fifty years. Oley Nelson was on his way to his Iowa home from an official visit to the few remaining Grand Army posts throughout the country, a circle trip of more than 6,000 miles. Some of the posts had only three members. Oley Nelson was then Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and 91 years young; he did not appear to be a day over 70.

The story of Oley Nelson's life is worth telling to the youth and grownups of today. His father was a farmer in far-off Norway, his mother a village school teacher. When the young farmer proposed, the teacher said: "I will marry you on one condition—that we go to that great, free country of America, where the children, with whom we hope to be blessed, will have the best chance to succeed in life." Oley's father loved the homeland dearly, but he loved the blue-eyed, flaxen-haired school mistress more. So they were married in 1843, and the following spring embarked for America, a voyage of seven long weeks on a sailing vessel. They landed at Castle Garden, in New York, thence up the Hudson to Albany by boat. From Albany to Buffalo they traveled on an Erie canal packet, speed less than three miles per hour, furnishing their own bedding. It surprised them to learn that the western terminus of the canal was 500 feet higher than Albany. From Buffalo, they voyaged up the Great Lakes on a paddle-wheel steamer, and disembarked at the bustling little frontier settlement of Milwaukee. The 1840 census gave Milwaukee 1,712 popula-

tion; Buffalo, 4,470, and the great port city of New York, 391,114.

A drive of 90 miles west from Milwaukee in a covered wagon, brought them to a log house in Primrose, Dane county, Wisconsin, that Norwegian friends had ready for them. The day after they arrived in Primrose, Oley was born.¹ He just missed being born in a covered wagon.

When the Civil War began, Oley's father enlisted in the Union army. Oley, then seventeen, wanted to go along, but his mother insisted he was needed on the farm. The father died in 1862, while enroute home from the army on sick leave. When Oley was twenty, his mother agreed to his enlistment, and he joined the Wisconsin University Regiment, so called because every one of the thousand members was under twenty-one.

Two years after Oley came home from the war, a visitor to Primrose told them that the soil was richer, and corn grew taller in Iowa than in Wisconsin. The farm was sold, and Oley and his widowed mother loaded the household furniture in a covered wagon, and in company with two neighbors, trekked to Iowa, where Oley Nelson helped found the towns of Sheldahl and Slater.

In his time, Oley Nelson was a successful farmer and merchant; president of a bank; president of a Norwegian college; served two terms in the Iowa General Assembly; president of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association of Iowa; many terms as sergeant-at-arms of the Iowa Assembly; was one of the twelve organizers of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church; State Commander of the Iowa department of the Grand Army, and rounded out his career as Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In his Iowa home in Story county, Oley Nelson reared a family of seven children, and knew and loved eighteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. "Life has

¹Oley Nelson was born August 10, 1844. Although at the outbreak of the Civil war he organized a company of Wisconsin men to fight in that struggle, in his several enlistments he was mustered in the forces of three states, Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa.

been good to me," he said in parting, "and my only unfulfilled wish is to at last sleep under Iowa sod."

Oley Nelson, the son of Norwegian immigrants, was an institution in Iowa. When he died April 15, 1938, at his home at Slater, at the age of 93, the daily newspapers of the state blazed his name across the front pages in tall, black type, and devoted much space to the inspiring story of his life. Thousands mourned the passing of the erect, slender little man, with snow-white moustache and goatee, keen sense of humor, and blue eyes that smiled and twinkled when he greeted friend or stranger.

OLEY NELSON'S LIFE INCIDENTS

(An extemporaneous talk by Former Representative Oley Nelson of Slater, Iowa, upon being called on for remarks at a meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association of Iowa, held at the Historical building at Des Moines, on March 17, 1921, from a stenographic report of proceedings.)

MR. NELSON: I fully agree with what has been said in commendation of those great Iowa men who have been mentioned, men who during their life time helped make Iowa what it is today. In answering your request for reminiscences of my own life, I can only say that it has been more uneventful. Probably, as a starter, I was fortunate in getting started with one of the best women to hold up my hands and work with me in the common tasks of our life.

I was born and raised in Wisconsin. I have a picture of the log house in which I was born. I claim to be what you might call a thoroughbred. I don't know whether that explains what I mean—but both my father and mother came from Norway to this country in 1840. My father voted the Whig ticket up to the time of 1849 or 1850, when the Republican party was organized. He voted for Lincoln, of course, and the Republican party was his political choice. When the war broke out in 1861, and there was a call for 75,000 three-months men, father wanted to enlist, although he was past forty years of age. Then when the call was made for three-year men he did enlist and died while in the service; and when father died in the army I enlisted and took his place.

After the close of the Civil war I came to Iowa. I landed up close to where Slater is today, with my mother, a war widow. The grasshoppers came on and we didn't have the wherewith to pay for everything that we had gone in debt for; so I came down to Des Moines to work for S. A. Robertson, a contractor. The

job he gave me was to haul brick on this very street from around the capitol. The old capitol building was trying to fall down, and when I hauled the brick from around this beautiful capitol square, little did I think then as a boy, that later I should be added to those entitled to a seat in that capitol building.

As a baby, almost, I entered into politics, and there is THE MAN (pointing to the imposing painting of Hon. John A. Kasson)—John A. Kasson who gave me the incentive to enter public life. My work had been more along church lines. I was still working here for S. A. Robertson—and I had a team of large horses—and one day I had a load of 1,000 brick which I hauled to Mr. Kasson's place to use in fixing up his cistern. I drove my team into his yard, but it was slippery and I could not get my team to pull the load up to the cistern, so commenced to unload my brick. John A. Kasson came out and looked at me. He saw that I had on a soldier's old blouse, and a soldier's button and blue overalls. He asked me how many loads did my employer exact of me for a day, and I told him four loads. "Well," he said, "young man, you can't carry 4,000 of them over here from where you are unloading," and he took off his coat—I told him how to carry the brick, and together we carried two-thirds of them over.

Mr. Kasson was then running for congress in this district, and one day he came down to see me, and he said: "I understand, Mr. Nelson, you can speak the Norwegian, Swedish and Danish languages as well as English." I told him that I could. Then he asked: "Will you go up into Story county and the northern sections of this district and talk with the voters and get them to vote for John A. Kasson, and have them send down a delegation for John A. Kasson and against Palmer." I told him that I would gladly do so. I went up there, and what do you think was my political speech? My political appeal to those voters was that a man who would help a poor soldier in working for his bread to pay his way and keep the wolf from his door, and a widowed mother helping that poor boy to be what he is today, is surely worthy to go to congress. So I got that whole delegation to go to the county conventions for John A. Kasson.

Pardon me for mentioning these things, but in the soldier's life there are things perhaps too sympathetic for me to talk about. However, there is one thing that I will venture to mention to you old Pioneers. I was delegated to take out a detail of twenty men and got as far as Holly Springs, and when we came to Holly Springs the railroad tracks and bridges were torn up. I detoured my men and told them they were permitted to go around Holly Springs. I sauntered up to Holly Springs and one of the first men I saw was one in a rocking chair on a porch. He saw me coming along and beckoned to me, and I went up to where he was sitting. He said: "Young man, where are you

from?" I told him "from Wisconsin." "Ah," said he, "from Wisconsin. Are there many soldiers from Wisconsin?" I replied "I don't know how many are in the service now, but they had enlisted over 50,000." He said: "Not 50,000?" In the meantime, I happened to tell him that I had lost a good father to preserve this Union, and then I told him that I was a Scandinavian, and he commenced to scratch his head. "Well," he says; "a Norwegian—Norway, that country a way up where the sun never sets. Do you talk Norwegian?" "Yes," I replied. "Can you read and write?" he asked. "Yes," I replied. "Talk Swedish?" "Yes," I again responded. "And English as well as I hear?" "Yes," I answered. Then he said: "I will tell you something, my young man. I was a member of the Mississippi legislature. We voted to secede, and when we voted to secede, we made an argument something like this: That we in the southland could muster enough soldiers to lick all the Yanks east of the Rocky mountains, but the Mississippi valley, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa have Swedes, Norwegians, Danes, Germans and others speaking four or five different languages, and we didn't suppose they were as patriotic as we believed those were that speak the English language, and if we are to fight all the English, Germans, Norwegians, Danes, Swedes, Scotch and Irish that live in those territories, we are lost."

I had a real fat idea when I was in the legislature. I thought I was going to have a great record, and I introduced a bill for what we now call in Iowa a "General Drainage Law." It was an early bill on that subject, and they made a lot of sport and fun over Nelson of Story county because of his drainage bill. They called it the "tile drainage of Muskrat creek," a Skunk river branch, and Mr. Nelson not quite rightly balanced in introducing a bill for general drainage.

I had another bill which I introduced in the legislature, No. 99, that passed the house, that would give every pupil in a district a text book. It passed the house, but I lost the bill in the senate. It was the first bill seeking to secure a law whereby a poor child could go to the district school—whereby a poor man's son could get his education—but I was too early. I had another little bill, which I thought was all right. It was a bill proposing the reduction of interest from ten percent to eight percent.

Now, this is merely reminiscent. Pardon me for consuming this valuable time. I am really glad to be here. I have met many times with the Pioneer Lawmakers and now happy that I have had the opportunity of addressing you.

CIVIL WAR MUSICIANS*

By BERT B. CHILD

The fife and the drum have led the way for a large part of the splendid history of the United States and the American people. Few persons realize how important has been this part; and because of this, it will be appropriate to give a brief review of the work of the National Association of Civil War Musicians and Sons of Veterans, and also the activities of the Iowa division which has always taken an active and conspicuous part in the state and national encampments of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The story of the fife and drum in musical history, and especially that of the U. S. A., commences early. A good start could be made with the famous painting, "The Spirit of '76," with which every American boy is familiar, and the striking characters of that picture consisting of two drummers and a fifer—father, son and grandfather. The music from any just such groups had much to do with the history of the Revolutionary period.

Or, one might start with the year before, when on November 10, 1775, the Continental Congress said "Let there be Marines." Recruiting for the new organization commenced at once in Philadelphia, then the national capital, and the citizens saw on the drums of those authorized to recruit the men, the motto: "Don't Tread On Me." That was under the picture of a rattlesnake. The motto survives today on the drums of the Marine corps. The men with the fifes and drums were the fore-runners of the now famous "United States Marine Band," known the world over.

Fifes and drums were the only musical instruments used by the military bands in the American Revolution.

When it was discovered twenty-three years later that both the navy and the marines had been virtually permitted to disband, and an emergency arose that indicated

*Contributed by request by Bert B. Child, of Nevada, Iowa, a lifelong resident and always taking part in musical events, commencing as a boy with the Story County fife and drum corps.

need for a fighting force on the ocean, Congress by an act July 11, 1798, established the United States Marine Corps and with it the necessary musical auxiliary. It was President John Adams who signed the bill. Provision was made for a drum major, a fife major and thirty-two drums and fifes. In every American war since, the Marine Corps and their drums and fifes have taken part.

The national capital was moved from Philadelphia to the new location on the Potomac river in 1800. The Marine Corps led the procession to the new national capital. The commandant, Lieut. Col. William Ward Barrows showed his regard for his drum corps by having it accompany him personally to Washington, D. C. This was on July 12, 1800 when he and his Marines traveled from Philadelphia to Washington to make the last journey of the national capital, and to establish permanent headquarters in the new capital city. In December of that same year other instruments than drums and fifes were added, and the United States Marine band began its growth and enlargement.

ASSISTED RECRUITING IN CIVIL WAR

Soon thereafter, or in 1801, the musicians turned to brass instruments and brass bands sprung up everywhere, and the drums and fifes were not much heard until in 1861. They remained popular in the New England states, and as the war clouds gathered prior to the outbreak of the Civil war, there was renewed activity for the fife and drum corps. It was found they helped greatly in the work for recruiting volunteers everywhere in the north, and probably also in the southern states.

The musicians of the Union armies were enlisted as such and soon formed regimental bands, but they had much to do with the morale of the armies in the camps and on the battlefields, and many of them dropped their instruments when it seemed necessary and took up guns. Always they acted as stretcher bearers for their

fallen comrades and performed duty as first aid to the wounded. History does not give these Civil war musicians full credit for the part they had in the great struggle.

In the final grand review of the Union armies, the famous march down Pennsylvania avenue at the national capital, the fife and drum corps made history. That event would have been incomplete without the martial music of the drums and fifes.

I have in mind another historic parade down Pennsylvania avenue, which will long be remembered, though the march was with much slower step though with all the enthusiasm of the soldiers who knew they were ready to go home after several years absence. This was at the national encampment of the G. A. R. seventy-one years later, or in 1936. It was a wonderful sight as many of those who had made the march in 1865 tramped along the same street and heard the cheers of the thrilled thousands who lined the famous avenue. They heard the same music, sang the same songs and shouted out their patriotism with broken voices.

The writer had the privilege and the honor on that occasion of leading one of the finest fife and drum corps ever assembled and covered the whole length of Pennsylvania avenue.

After the final grand review down Pennsylvania avenue, which was the signal for disbandment of the armies, there were annual parades and reunions, and always the fife and drum corps helped to stir the enthusiasm. This was especially true at national encampments in 1892, 1902 and 1915; but the parade in 1936, above referred to, was in my opinion more spectacular, and a really grand display of courage on the part of the veterans who wished to repeat the march of the final review seventy-one years after, and at a time when most of them were 90 years old or over. It was eventful for the veterans and for the spectators, for it is not likely it will again be repeated. It was a great occasion especially for the children and younger people who

cheered and waved their little flags. Many of the older folks could only wave their tear-stained handkerchiefs to encourage the old veterans on this their most eventual and for many last march.

THE G. A. R. ORGANIZED

The Grand Army of the Republic was organized in 1866 by Maj. B. F. Stephenson, a doctor of Springfield, and Captain Phillip, and others, a state convention was held at Decatur, Ill., and a national encampment held at Indianapolis in the following November. Always the fife and drum corps has been conspicuous at every annual encampment. For the first time, in 1942, when the national encampment was again held at Indianapolis, the National Association of Civil War Musicians was unable to hold an annual meeting owing to transportation difficulties. However a few musicians did attend in an attempt to hold up the long tradition.

The men who led the Union armies to victory with the fife and drum, or in the organized regimental bands, formed a National Association of Civil War Veterans, and by including the Sons of Veterans, the association has been able to survive. At state and national encampments the members have contributed greatly to the enthusiasm and spirit of the occasions.

The membership has generally been strongest in the middle states and the west. Up to a few years ago, Kansas, Colorado, Oregon and California were represented by Civil War veterans, but with their passing the associations were disbanded, but there is still one active member in California. There is now (1943) one Civil war veteran musician in Portland, Oregon, Comrade Hopkins. He is one of only two left, the other being Comrade Cummings, living in Florida, now over 100 years old. The ranks today are made up of sons and grandsons of Civil war veterans, and veterans of World War I. While there was great activity in the eastern states in organizing music for the war, no states east of Pennsylvania have affiliated with the national asso-

ciation for many years. The real life of the association has been by members from Iowa, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Minnesota.

Many of the members in recent years have been sons of the Civil war soldiers. Some have played alongside of the veterans for 50 or 60 years. They were taught the old army tunes by their elders and learned the drum beats from those who knew them in war.

Some there are, like the writer, who commenced at the age of 8, which was 64 years ago; and as their friends have suggested we have heard the soldiers tell their stories around the camp fires so often and so well that it is easy to draw imagination over time and almost smell the smoke of the great struggle of 1862-5.

The Iowa division has been active in state and national reunions. One of the early national presidents was E. J. Freeman of Audubon. Major B. F. Stow of Des Moines served as president ten years, passing away while in office in 1936. Another prominent Iowan, "Uncle Pat" Allred, of Corydon, was elected at Denver in 1926 to be national secretary-treasurer. He was still holding this position when he passed away March 4, 1939.

SONS OF MEMBERS GIVEN MEMBERSHIP

At first while the sons were permitted to play with members they were not admitted to membership, but in 1926 they were given membership and in that year the office of general manager was created. The writer was selected to fill that office, but had been assistant secretary for some time and in 1938 was made secretary-treasurer. Great credit is due to the large number of sons of veterans who have served their old comrades.

While there have been many who were musicians during the war a goodly number of soldiers took up the fife and drum after being mustered out. A drummer quite familiar in Iowa for many years was "Uncle Mac" McGeehon, of Atlantic, who fell in love with the big bass drum after the close of the war. He was a prominent

business man, but at the Iowa State fairs he was prominent with his "Old Soldiers Drum Corps." On account of his age and his long white beard he was a real feature. In 1936, on May 18, he passed his 97th year, but in June he played his bass drum at the encampment in Des Moines with all his old time vigor and enthusiasm. He answered the final roll call on August 10 of that year.

We all knew how much "Uncle Mac" loved his bass drum; and in 1924 the national encampment was to be held in Boston the same week as the Iowa State fair. The drum corps had agreed to play at the fair but "Uncle Mac" wanted to go to Boston so he could visit his old home near by, so it was arranged for him to go but leave his drum. But he said if he went the old bass drum had to go along, and the drum went along.

The National Drum corps, with sixty-five members, marched in the Boston parade and there was but one from Iowa. He was placed on the outside of the line and on his big drum was the inscription, "Iowa Dept. G. A. R." The Boston papers in their account stated "what a fine drum corps Iowa had in the parade." "Uncle Mac" had the laugh on his comrades when he returned and told how much Iowa would have missed had he not taken his drum along.

It is also true that "Uncle Pat" Allred was not a musician of the Civil war, but he so loved the fife and drum music that he would follow us around at the fair rather than go to the races. Finally he learned the drum and organized a drum corps in his home town, and the boys there are still carrying on in memory of the man who so endeared himself to all of them.

Much of the music of today is by the drum and bugle corps; and much praise is due the splendid work of the drum and bugle corps in Iowa and other states. There is such similarity between this and the fife and drum corps that many do not think of the difference. The drum and bugle corps make a wonderful showing and excite great interest in the manner in which they carry on and perpetuate the music of their wars, the Spanish-

American war and World War I. This is the work done by the Association of Civil War Musicians for the other war, and now it is a younger generation seeking to do honor to their comrades.

With the fife and drum corps of Civil War days, the fife could take on any tune with no limit and practical music was played. There is no restriction on our repertoire. Anything played on almost any instrument can be duplicated by the fife. All the drummers need to understand is the time and the beats are given for that. A good fife and drum corps can furnish music for a long time without repeating any number. But the bugles are handicapped and do not have such a wide range for their work. This is not a criticism, nor an attempt to rob the drum and bugle corps of their well earned reputation for entertainment.

This difference is responsible for the fact that recently many of the drum and bugle corps have added fifes to their band in order to extend their repertoire.

This is not perhaps all that could be said about the Civil War musicians. The records of their national association were destroyed prior to 1926, and reliance has been largely upon memory. As stated before, there are now (1943) only two of the Civil War musicians left, in the national association or any of the state groups. In Iowa, as in most of the states, the younger members who are sons or grandsons of Civil War musicians, or who have more recently become interested, are carrying on in memory of our old veteran friends and comrades of the long ago.

The State Department of History and Archives is on the honor roll of departments and organizations, in Des Moines, complying fully with the plan of the United States treasury for regular payroll deductions for the purchase of war bonds by the employes.

IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING RECORDS AND ARCHIVES

By BESSIE LYON

Recently there was considerable controversy, in the Iowa legislature, over the advisability of keeping old documents and records of early Iowa history. "Why bother with the insignificant details of several generations past? Why not discard these musty old files and fill that space with the records of the real, vibrant activities of today?"

This theory may sound very practical and reasonable, but I wish to raise my voice in protest, against any such possible regime. In justification of my stand, I would call attention to the fact, that some few years ago, a project was started by the government, to find and register the unmarked graves of soldiers, in old cemeteries and other long forgotten places.

The state of Iowa, realizing that much matter of historical value would be found in this work, pushed the matter vigorously. In Hamilton county, Mr. Floyd Pierce carried on this work with much energy and produced excellent results. Being a member of the American Legion, he was especially anxious to locate the graves of soldiers, since the Federal government was providing a metal marker, which would hold a flag, to be used upon the grave of any soldier in any war service in the United States.

In this connection, Mr. Pierce frequently consulted me, and we made several inspection trips to Graceland cemetery; seeing the new markers, each bearing a flag, made me very enthusiastic over the project. No longer should these service men remain unhonored in a neglected grave!

In the course of events, he brought out the fact that my own father, who served, in defense of the north west border, in Co. C of the Iowa Northern Brigade, should have a metal marker; it is with great satisfaction that

I find his service recognized, and the little flag that waves over his grave, looks very sweet to me.

Later on, Mr. Pierce said to me, "I have found the name of J. H. Lyon on a list of men who were called "The Iowa Frontier Guard," who was he?" This was my father's older brother, who had gone to Spirit Lake, with a hastily gathered group, and had endured much hardship, from cold and lack of protection, during the winter of 1858; I began hunting facts, and at Mr. Pierce's suggestion, filled out an application for a marble head stone, which the government will furnish for any unmarked soldier's grave, providing the record is authentic.

We felt much pleased over what we had accomplished, and I anxiously awaited an answer to my request. However, months passed, and I finally received this disappointing letter—

Dear Madam: Reference is to the application for a government headstone, to mark the grave of John H. Lyon.

This office regrets to advise you that this application is cancelled, as every effort to identify the military service of the veteran, failed. If at some future date, you discover some pertinent facts, that may enable this office to identify this service, we will be pleased to renew our efforts.

C. C. REYNOLDS

Col. Q. M. Corps, Assistant.

And after all my efforts, that was that!

Now I was sure that my uncle had traveled those weary miles, to the North West border, and that he had given of his strength and energy, to defend young Iowa, when she sorely needed it; he had helped to make this great state safe for civilization, and there he lay in an unmarked grave, because "pertinent facts", were lacking!

This spurred my determination to unearth those facts and secure proof of his services, and thus establish his definite right to governmental recognition; going to our Kendall Young library, I asked where I could find anything about the Iowa Frontier Guard; Miss McMurray

helped find the files of THE ANNALS OF IOWA, and we located an article in the April issue, of 1913, Vol. XI, No. 1, containing a photostatic copy of the signatures of all those men who enlisted in what was called the "Iowa Frontier Guard." I carefully copied the following roster from this source—

"We, the under signed Officers and Non Commissioned Officers and Privates of the "Iowa Frontier Guard," do hereby acknowledge the receipt from the State of Iowa, of the sum of money, respectively set opposite our names, which appear below, and are attested by a commissioned officer of said company, in full pay for serving the number of days certified to, in the annexed certificate of the captain of said company, being full pay for the services of each man, whose name is hereto attached, from the 22nd of March, to the time of discharge."

ROSTER OF IOWA FRONTIER GUARD

Henry B. Martin	Wm. T. Somers
Wm. S. Church	Peter P. Kelly
David S. Jewett	L. L. Estes
Jonas Ball	J. W. Knapp
Wm. H. Grayson	Robert F. Turner
W. S. Defore	Tyler Grant
Ezra M. Wilcox	John H. Lyon
Chas. C. Stratton	Thomas Bonebright
Thos. Mulvaney	Geo. Olcott
Andrew McPlaetus	Wm. E. Petton
Franklin R. Mason	Jacob Knapp
Lemuel McIntosh	H. C. Hillock
Richard Upton	A. T. Emiapmsi
G. C. Long	W. D. Cosslay
A. S. Leonard	William Donaldson
Wm. B. Harlan	F. A. Blake
Michael Sweeny	R. U. Wheelock
W. H. Bates	J. H. Schuneman
A. Bellville	C. W. Clark
John W. Davis	Wm. Barkrusi
Geo. J. Skinner	Eber Palmer
Wm. W. Funk	G. W. Royer
	Guernsey Smith

But however gratifying to my own mind, this information might be, I knew it was not a complete official record, and Washington authorities would not accept it as such. How much money had each received? I must find proof of the sums paid; after thinking things over, I appealed to Curator Ora Williams, of the Iowa State Department of History and Archives, stating the facts

in the case, and asked if there were not some way of finding that these men had been serving, had been paid and were honorably discharged.

The late Mr. Mahannah, assistant curator, being much intrigued with the story, set to work at once, and after diligent research, produced the desired documentary evidence, to substantiate my claims.

In a very short time I received the following communication, most gratifying to my mind, and a fine testimonial as to the efficiency of the Archives Department:

Jan. 8, 1941.

Miss Bessie Lyon

708 Boone Street, Webster City, Iowa.

Madam: In reply to your request for further information, as to the record of military services of JOHN H. LYON, will say that I have made some investigation, and find substantially as follows:

The "Iowa Frontier Guard" is the name commonly given to a somewhat irregularly formed organization, for military purposes, organized under the direction of Gov. Ralph P. Lowe, of Iowa, in 1858 for the purpose of protecting settlers on the north western frontier of Iowa. This organization, which did not number more than forty persons, under the direction of Capt. H. P. Martin, was mustered into service for the state, November 22, 1858, and remained in service some five or six months.

The original pay roll sheets for this company, with the signatures of the various members, is on file in the Iowa Department of History and Archives. I have examined these original papers, and find the name of John H. Lyon signed to the various pay rolls and muster rolls and that he was a member during all of the period of service of this company.

The records show that he was mustered in November 22, 1858. The precise date of mustering out is not shown in any of the papers that have been preserved, but from the pay rolls and other evidence, it is plain that the company was discharged on or about, May 11 or 12, 1859. The papers indicate that for this military service, he received from the state, Two hundred fifty six dollars and fifty cents (\$256.50).

There is in the published records of the state, evidence that this company was authorized by the governor, under his authority as Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the State; that the state paid for the services of the men, and that the United States government at a later date, reimbursed the state, at least in

part, for whatever expenditures were made, on account of this expedition.

As this was an irregular organization, no company number, or regiment number was ever assigned to the same. It was, as I have said, known as the Iowa Frontier Guard. Sometimes it is referred to in history as Captain Martin's company, but there is no doubt but that it performed military service, and that the United States, in the payment of some or all of the expenses thereof, recognized that service.

I do not know whether this will be sufficient to enable you to complete your very laudable plan to have the grave of Mr. Lyon marked in an official way, but I hope that it will be. If you should find that it is advisable or necessary for me to place this material or information in the form of an affidavit, I will do so. Under the Iowa law, the Curator can certify to facts and they are of standing in our courts.

I would be pleased if you could keep me informed, as to the results of your further work in this line.

Yours truly,

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND ARCHIVES

By Ora Williams, Curator.

I promptly asked for the proffered affidavit, and Mr. Williams sent it, duly notarized, and perfectly official.

As I recall the facts, it was about Feb. 1, 1941, when I sent all this new data to Washington; to my great delight, in about a month I was informed that the record was acceptable, that this record, found in Iowa's Archives, was a sufficiently convincing proof of a soldier's service, to warrant the award of a government head stone, and "What type of marker do you want?"

You may imagine the glee with which I filled out all the necessary forms and how happy I was when the stone came in time for its being placed before Memorial Day. It is a beautiful white stone, of Georgia marble, and it permanently marks the grave of one whose sacrifices had hitherto been unnoted.

The flag on that grave and the white stone are eloquent testimonials that it is of the utmost importance to preserve our records of service men—not only for present reference, but also for all future time.

This is but one instance of the splendid service ren-

dered by the Department of History and Archives; doubtless hundreds of other cases could be cited were the department desirous of publishing the facts. Therefore, it is with great appreciation of the value of this work, that I say "Keep the History and Archives and let the good work go on."

LOOKING TO RESTORATION OF PROSPERITY

Iowa representatives of industry have taken the initial steps to assure cooperation in the post-war task of restoring stability and prosperity by the processes that gave to the people of Iowa and the nation their present world leadership. A conference was held in Des Moines March 26, 1943, which may have great historic importance. This meeting was under the direction of Mr. Ralph Budd, who is regional chairman of the Committee for Economic Development, of which Mr. Paul G. Hoffman, of Indiana, is the national chairman. This committee is a voluntary group of business men formed "to assist commerce and industry in preparing to make their full contribution to stability and prosperity through high levels of employment and productivity when peace comes." The committee for Iowa was formed of some fifteen leading business men, with Herbert L. Horton, of Des Moines, as chairman.

The keynote of the conference was the duty of commerce and industry to assure the men in the armed forces that there will be work for them in a free society when the military job is finished, and that such assurance is vitally needed as a contribution to the morale of all concerned in the prosecution of the war.

Mr. Budd, who is president of the Burlington railroad, received his education in Des Moines, and takes special interest in Iowa affairs. All members of the committee are actively engaged in various lines of manufacturing and commerce and are large employers of working men. The planning by and through this committee is one of the major Iowa activities incidental to the war.

EARLY IOWA MAP ATTRACTS SETTLERS

By B. L. WICK*

An Iowan recently traveling in the east brought back from Morris, N. Y. an old township map of Iowa published and circulated in 1854 by Henn, Williams & Company, of Fairfield. A number of ferries and prospective railway routes, as well as some roads already were laid out as shown by this map.

With settlements largely in the eastern sections of the state, the map discloses that Linn county then had post offices as follows: Cedar Rapids, Marion, Newark, Hoosier Grove, Palo, Ivanhoe, St. Mary's, St. Julien, Oak Grove, Spencer Grove, Lafayette, Boulder, Center Point and Cedar.

Johnson county shows up with post offices at Iowa City, Solon, Old Man's Creek, Ft. Pierce and New Port, while Benton county had for post offices then Vinton, Burke, Marysville, Benton, Taylor's Grove and Prairie Creek.

Iowa county had post offices at Marengo, Kozta, Homestead, Millersburg and North English.

Jones county shows post offices at Anamosa, Scotch Grove, Monticello, Fairview, Springfield, Highland, Castle Grove, Bowen's Prairie, Rome and Walnut Fork.

Cedar county being settled prior to the other counties, the following were shown: Tipton, Rochester, Inland, Cedar Bluffs, Masillon, Pioneer, Yankee Grove, Springdale and Pedee.

Twenty counties and more in the northwestern section of Iowa showed neither post offices nor roads upon this map.

Published by Iowa men this map was circulated all over the eastern states and undoubtedly was the means of securing a great many of the early settlers who emigrated to Iowa in the fifties and located in the eastern portion of the new state then scarcely five years old with large tracts of land thrown open for settlement.

*B. L. Wick is president of the Linn County Historical Society and an authority on eastern Iowa historical matters.

Bernhart Henn lived at Fairfield, was a lawyer and served in the Thirty-second and Thirty-third congresses as one of the Iowa representatives from 1851 to 1855. He was a widely known citizen who originally came to Iowa from New York and first settled at Burlington, later becoming clerk in the United States land office and in 1844 registrar of the land office at Fairfield. As a public official and a business man he was credited with being aggressive, forceful, with a dominating personality and inclined to be dictatory in his political views.

Mr. Henn organized the banking firm known as Henn, Williams & Company at Fairfield. Mr. Williams came to Iowa earlier and with George D. and Ed. Temple, organized the first bank in Fairfield, where he resided in 1851. Henn also published a paper in Iowa City for a short time. He died in 1865. His widow survived him until 1895, having been born in Maryland in 1820.

WATERFOWL IN IOWA

The extensive collection of mounted specimens of Iowa waterfowl, bird skins, motion pictures and slides at the State Department of History and Archives have been of major importance in the development of the text and splendid color plates of a new 130 page book that has recently been completed by Jack W. Musgrove and Mary R. Musgrove. The volume is now in press; the superb colored plate illustrations are by Maynard F. Reece.

Included in the text are all species of waterfowl which have occurred in the state. Brief life histories place major emphasis on the bird's habitat, behavior, field marks and status in Iowa. The color plates, truly exceptional work of art, show the birds in their various plumage phases. This volume will at once find favor with lovers of wildlife and is being published by the State Conservation Commission.

ANNALS OF IOWA

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

GETTING AHEAD WITH THE ARCHIVES

The long time program inaugurated by the Trustees of the State Department of History and Archives, upon reorganization in March 1939, has been making satisfactory progress in handling the state archives. A necessary step in that program was to procure a building for the exclusive use of the archives of the state, where better care could be given to the priceless state papers and records in an air conditioned archives building, free from conditions occasioned by occupancy of such building for offices or other use. The department succeeded in securing the Kasson Memorial building on Thirteenth street; also an appropriation to buy same and fit it up as a temporary archives building.

During the last year the work of clearing out an accumulation of state departmental records and papers in old vaults, tunnels and closets, and placing the material in this archives building ready for sorting out, cataloguing and placing on shelves, has been carried forward with energy under the direct supervision of Ralph Young, as assistant curator and director of archives. This task has required both patience and perseverance, and in its doing over twenty-five tons of useless material was disposed of, and a much larger quantity selected and placed in receptacles where it will be found on call.

With the close of the fiscal period, June 30, Mr. Young became deputy state industrial commissioner, with former Senator E. P. Corwin, appointed to that office. Mr. Young had held this position under Commissioner A. B. Funk for more than twenty years. In his work of hastening delayed archival placement, as well as in the business management of the Department of History and

Archives, Mr. Young has rendered great service to the state. By reason of his previous experience in administration of the Iowa workmen's compensation law, he will continue his excellent service.

Emory H. English, with long and honorable experience in positions of responsibility in state government, takes over the work of assistant curator and director of archives. He will continue in general charge of the manuscript division and assist in the editing of the ANNALS OF IOWA. He is abundantly equipped for valuable service and the work both on the archives and manuscript collection will go forward in harmony with the well settled traditions of this department.

PORTRAIT OF GOV. GEO. W. CLARKE

A fine oil portrait of the late Gov. George W. Clarke has been placed in the state's gallery of notables, now numbering about two hundred. This was brought to the department by Nile C. Kinnick and his wife, Frances, who is daughter of Mrs. Geo. W. Clarke, now living with the Kinnicks in Omaha. The portrait was painted in 1919 by Geo. Upp, a noted portrait painter, and Governor Clarke had kept it in his residence at Adel, which he had built for his home sixty years ago. Mrs. Arletta Greene Clarke was born and married in the old Benjamin Greene home, still standing, and she is now 86 years old. Formal presentation of the portrait to the State will probably be arranged for the next meeting of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association. Governor Clarke was not only governor, 1913-17, but representative in the General Assembly from Dallas county, Twenty-Eighth to Thirty-first, speaker of the House twice and as lieutenant governor was president of the senate in 1909. The extensive capital park, on which is located the state capitol and the state historical building, and various fine monuments, is of itself the best possible reminder of the statesman-like foresight and undaunted courage of Governor Clarke, for it is the largest and one of the finest in the United States.

U. S. S. REMEY LAUNCHED

Admiral George C. Remey, distinguished Iowa naval officer, has been honored by having named a new combat vessel of the destroyer class to be the "Remey." The destroyer "Remey" was launched July 25, 1943, at the yards of the Bath Iron Works corporation, at Bath, Maine, on the Kennebec river. The sponsor at the launching was Miss Angelina G. Remey, of Jamestown, R. I., daughter of the late admiral. Readers of THE ANNALS are familiar with the colorful and useful life of Rear Admiral Remey, born in Burlington when Iowa was a territory and graduated from the Annapolis academy in 1859, and for sixty-five years served with great ability in the navy of the United States. The suggestion that the destroyer be named for the Iowa naval officer came from Mr. Sumner Salter, of New York city, also an Iowa man, long time friend of the Remey family, whose keen interest in Iowa men and Iowa history has been steadily maintained. When the matter was brought to the attention of Secretary Frank Knox the propriety of the name soon became apparent and the christening followed. Among the prized possessions of the Department of History and Archives is an oil portrait of Rear Admiral Remey, also a bronze portrait bust, and a portrait of his wife, the daughter of Chief Justice Mason of the Iowa supreme court.

NEW WAR RECORDS ACCUMULATING

Substantial progress is being made by the war records division of the State Department of History and Archives. This work was entered upon early, the purpose being to secure, at a time when records are fresh and available, the printed, manuscript, photographs and other records relating to Iowa's part in the present war of the nations. This will be for the use of historians, students, friends and relatives of participants, and all who are in any way interested. Material is being as-

sembled as to all war activities in Iowa or by Iowa people, such as bond drives, salvage work, war plants, bond sales, draft boards, the state guard and its units, volunteer organizations for war work, and also facts as to the personnel of Iowa's fighting and working forces, both men and women. The department is likewise gathering material for permanent display by the state in the Historical building, corresponding to that for World War I and the Civil war, only far more complete and extensive. This includes war posters, war photographs, uniforms, letters, manuscripts, trophies, camp publications and war maps. Very fine cooperation has been given by all the various organizations and agencies, and in due time there will be a special room or hall for the display of the material.

The Curator reports that an interesting item for the museum division of the State Department of History and Archives has been acquired. This is an Edison phonograph made at East Orange, N. J. about 1912, for Mr. Edward C. Horne, of Des Moines, and used by him in many cities in the "tone test" demonstrations, at a time when the phonograph business was making its first great strides. The department has also received the gift of an American made music box, a "Regina," which was at one time popular, but is no longer a novelty. This was from Mr. A. A. Badgley, of Pleasantville, who also gave a melodeon made a century ago. The department appreciates all these historic additions, but it is to be regretted that the state has not made provision for their full and proper display. Some day the people will demand and secure an enlargement of the state historical building.

NOTABLE DEATHS

FRED H. HUNTER, legislator, city official, railroad man and agriculturalist, born at Dexter, Iowa, on June 7, 1869, died at Rochester, Minn. on July 23, 1943; his parents natives of Pennsylvania, moved to Dexter in 1867, thence to Des Moines in 1869; his father, Dr. A. O. Hunter was one of Des Moines' pioneer physicians; graduated from East High school of Des Moines in 1887; afterwards graduated from Capital City Commercial college and took agriculture and dairy course at the University of California and later at Iowa State college at Ames; associated with B. F. Gue for a time as one of the editors of the Rural Northwest Farm Publication; read law one winter; later employed for a number of years by the Chicago, Great Western railroad as passenger agent and subsequently traveling freight and passenger agent.

Mr. Hunter has engaged in many Des Moines business enterprises and resided eight months of each year on the family farm near Ankeny, and in Des Moines during the winter months. He was married in 1892 to Mary Ankeny, daughter of Gen. R. V. Ankeny, who survives him with two sons and a daughter. He has been a life-long republican and active in politics as well as in business and welfare fields; served in the Iowa General Assembly in 1908 and mayor of Des Moines in 1926; since the operation of the selective service act has served as chairman of local draft board No. 3, served as a member and chairman of the Polk county board of supervisors in 1922 to 1926; always active in welfare and civic work, Masonic and church circles. In 1911 he was appointed receiver, auditor and general manager of the Minneapolis and Northern Interurban railroad which was electrified and sold three years later. Was a member of the Pioneer Lawmakers Association, Des Moines Pioneer club and the Kiwanis club.

GEORGE FREDERICK KAY, educator and scientist, one of the world's great geologists, former dean of the State University of Iowa liberal arts college, born on a farm near Virginia, York county, Ontario, on September 14, 1873, died at Iowa City, Iowa, on July 19, 1943, having retired from full-time teaching service in May previous; long a recognized authority on glacial and interglacial history of Iowa and adjacent states; through research, he was able to determine the minimum length of time involved in the Pleistocene geologic period at about one million years; for 23 years headed the department of geology at the state university, directed the Iowa geological survey, and was Iowa state geologist from 1911 until 1934; for the last 25 years, his main

courses have been geology of Iowa, geology and man, and Pleistocene geology; becoming dean emeritus at the age of 68, headed the liberal arts college from 1917 until 1941. During tenure as dean, he was responsible for the establishment and selection of the first directors of the schools of journalism, fine arts, letters, and religion, all of which were added to the liberal arts college. He remained chairman of the board of trustees of the school of religion from its inception in 1924 until his retirement as dean in 1941.

Dean Kay attended schools as a lad in the district near Virginia, York county, Ontario, and was graduated from the Port Perry High school and the Owen Sound collegiate institution, receiving his degree from the latter in 1896. He took his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto in 1900 and his Master of Arts degree two years later at the University of Chicago, where he was a fellow from 1903 until 1904. In 1914, he was granted a Doctor of Philosophy degree at Cornell college, Mt. Vernon, Ia., and returned to the University of Toronto in 1936 to be granted an honorary Doctor of Letters degree.

He was a former vice president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a fellow of the Geological Society of America, and a former president of the Iowa Academy of Science. In addition, he was a member of the Presbyterian church, a fourteenth degree Mason and a Kiwanian. He is survived by his wife, the former Bertha Hopper of Paisley, Ontario, and two sons, George Marshall, associate professor of geology at Columbia university, New York, N. Y., and Capt. Galvin F., of the army medical corps in India. A daughter, Marjorie Kay McLaughlin, died in 1936.

CHARLES BURTON ROBBINS, jurist, banker, veteran of two wars, born at Hastings, Iowa, on Nov. 6, 1877; died at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, July 5, 1943; son of an Iowa farm couple, Lewis Robbins and Harriet E. Benson Robbins; attended the public schools of Mills county, Iowa, and a private school at Hempstead, Long Island, before entering the University of Nebraska, from which he was graduated in 1898; enlisted in First Nebraska Volunteers in April the same year when the war with Spain began; later was commissioned a second lieutenant and saw service in twenty-seven major engagements; wounded in the battle of Marilaio, in the Philipines, on March 27, 1899; cited for gallantry in action and discharged with rank of captain; after a post graduate course at the University of Nebraska he made a trip around the world; married to Helen Larrabee, of Clermont, Iowa, Sept. 9, 1903, who died Aug. 9, 1919; entered law school of Columbia University, and after graduation and

while there kept his association with the military by entering the New York national guard; continued law studies in law office of Grimm, Trewin & Moffit in Cedar Rapids and admitted to the Iowa bar in 1904; served as judge of the superior court of Cedar Rapids, by appointment of Gov. B. F. Carroll, until this country entered the war with Germany, when he assisted organizing Battery E in Cedar Rapids and went to Camp Cody, N. M. for service on the border with rank of major on the staff of General H. A. Allen; later assigned to the Thirty-fifth division in France, and to the Thirty-fourth division in the United States; following the war becoming a major in the U. S. army reserve and subsequently promoted to the rank of colonel in command of the 349th regimental U. S. infantry, and served as commander of the Iowa department of the American Legion.

During the administration of Pres. Calvin Coolidge, Colonel Robbins was named assistant secretary of war, succeeding Col. Hanford MacNider, of Mason City, Iowa, who resigned to receive the appointment of Minister to Canada. Upon his retirement from the war department he re-assumed command of the 349th regiment of infantry, retiring as its commander in 1940. He was the first president of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines in 1931 and also has served as its chairman, having a territory including Iowa, Minnesota and the Dakotas. He was active in Cedar Rapids social and business life; was president of the Cedar Rapids Life Insurance Co.; was a collector and student of rare coins and had a collection of more than 5,000 coins. In recent years had served as counsel and general manager of the American Life convention. The burial was in Arlington national cemetery at Arlington, Va.

R. G. CLARK, legislator and state dairy and food official, born Feb. 9, 1861, at Lawrence, Mass., died June 25, 1943 at his home in Des Moines, Iowa; when ten years old came with his parents to Manchester, Iowa, where his father, a long time produce merchant, purchased and embarked in the creamery, egg and poultry business; completed his education in the public schools, the Manchester academy and Grinnell college, graduating in 1882; entered the butter and egg business for himself at Marcus, Iowa, in 1883; removed to Webster City in 1885 continuing in the creamery, egg and butter business until appointed Dairy and Food Commissioner of Iowa by Gov. N. E. Kendall on May 1, 1922; married Oct. 13, 1887 to Emily S. Rann, of Manchester. Mrs. Clark and an only daughter, Sibyl, survive him. The family resided in Des Moines twenty-one years.

"Rush" Clark was for many years a distinguished citizen of Webster City, which he always regarded as his home, serving

there in turn as mayor, long-time member of the school board, postmaster for eleven years, an ardent advocate of municipal ownership and an active republican worker. His combination of characteristics marked him as an able man—clear thinking, keen analysis, aggressive action, unfailing loyalty and unimpeachable integrity, all influencing his course in life. With wide acquaintance he exercised great influence in Iowa political affairs, enthusiastically espousing the cause of men and measures having his approval.

Mr. Clark served as representative from Hamilton county in the Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth General Assemblies. Later serving as dairy and food commissioner, he continued as director of the dairy and food division of the newly organized State Department of Agriculture, under Raymond W. Cassady, the first secretary of agriculture. Mr. Cassady died in 1924 and Governor Kendall appointed Mr. Clark as the interim secretary, until a successor was nominated in the person of Mark Thornburg, who retained Mr. Clark in his old position until recent years when failing health caused his retirement. Through a long period of years he bore an honorable part in the affairs of Iowa, always a firm believer in the right of popular suffrage and having an abiding confidence in the ability and right of the people to enjoy the widest possible privileges in fixing the policies of government.

ROBERT L. SAFELY, railroading and insurance service, born at Cohes, N. Y., Aug. 19, 1863; died at the Iowa City hospital, June 20, 1943, a resident of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, more than sixty years; came there with his father in 1877, the father being master mechanic of the old B. C. R. & N. Ry.; a first cousin of Col. W. G. Dows; served first as a clerk under Robert Williams of the same railroad, and then as the private secretary of Pres. C. J. Ives; for years was a director of the Iowa Railway and Light Co.; later becoming owner of and conducted a large fire insurance agency until his death; married a daughter of Col. C. A. Clark, who died in 1919; survived by a sister, two daughters and two sons.

Mr. Safely was active in the commercial life and club interests of his city and served as an officer of those aggressive in the upbuilding of Cedar Rapids; organized one of the first professional base ball clubs, played on such teams as the Captain Ansons in Marshalltown; encouraged development of John McGraw later of the Baltimore Orioles and the New York Giants; also personal friend and sponsor of William Hutchinson, later star pitcher of Des Moines and Chicago Cubs. Mr. Safely was a member of the Episcopal church and a republican. He made a number of trips to Europe and was proficient in speaking the French language.

C. B. SANTEE, legislator and civic leader, born on a farm in Butler county, Iowa, on November 6, 1864, died at Cedar Falls, Iowa, on July 19, 1943; educated in the country schools, State Teacher's college and Cornell college; his father and mother were pioneers in Butler county; moved to Cedar Falls April 10, 1890, where he has since resided; served as county recorder of Black Hawk county from 1895 to 1900; in 1912 elected as delegate to the republican national convention at Chicago; elected and served three terms in the Iowa General Assembly in 1916, 1918 and 1920; married on April 5, 1899 to Lulu Probert of Shell Rock, Iowa; surviving are the wife and five children, all members of the Methodist church. Besides his church affiliations Mr. Santee was a Mason and a republican. He was active in state and local political circles and always took an active interest in the Iowa "good roads" program, helping sponsor the first hard surface highway between Cedar Falls and Waterloo. Likewise he was a leader in all community affairs and civic activities.

MRS. CARRIE M. HAWLEY, writer and civic welfare worker, born in Perry, N. Y. August 10, 1860, died at Des Moines, Iowa, August 10, 1943; married to Henry B. Hawley, a former Iowa insurance man, in 1878; resided at Ames, Cedar Rapids and Clinton before moving to Des Moines; active in literary and welfare circles; contributed to nationally known newspapers and periodicals, her literary efforts including several books and booklets on meditations and reviews. On the death of Mr. Hawley in 1928 his will provided for the establishment and financing of the Hawley Welfare Foundation for constructive welfare work and research, to become operative through a board of trustees upon the death of Mrs. Hawley.

ELLIS D. ROBB, national bank examiner, former Iowan, born in Eldora, Iowa, in June 1869, died at Atlanta, Georgia, on July 10, 1943; son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin D. Robb, early residents of Eldora; received his education in the schools of Eldora and later entered the Hardin County bank as an employee during the period C. McKen Duren was its president; as a young man was elected and served as the "boy mayor" of Eldora, having previously served as councilman from his ward; was instrumental in securing contribution from Andrew Carnegie of \$10,000 for erecting of the Eldora Public library building, which was dedicated in 1902, Gov. A. B. Cummins delivering the address. He devoted some time to the hobby of securing the signatures of celebrated men of the nation including presidents, members of congress, ambassadors, educators and other notables.

Mr. Robb was first appointed as a state bank examiner by Gov. B. F. Carroll and later named as a national bank examiner and then as chief of staff of a district consisting of nine southern states, with headquarters at Atlanta, where he moved from Iowa some twenty years ago and has since resided, and where his wife, the former Addie Smith, passed away, as well as their daughter Marion. He is survived by a son and a brother, and was a lifetime member of the Congregational church.

ALEXIS U. COATES, prohibition leader, born June 21, 1858 in Richland county, Wis., died January 21, 1943 in Des Moines. Mr. Coates was best known, and was of national repute, as a staunch advocate of any and every plan for lessening the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage. He lived as a boy at Wiscotta, when that almost abandoned town was an important trading center, taught school, and engaged in sale of musical instruments in Perry, Iowa, where he was also president of the Y. M. C. A. He later engaged in business in Des Moines. He was the candidate for governor on the Prohibition state ticket in Iowa in 1901 and received 15,569 votes. He had been a close friend and supporter of John P. St. John for president in earlier years, and never lost his interest in the cause of prohibition.

ALICE HUMPHREY HATCH, M. D. born at Redfield, Iowa, died in Des Moines June 8, 1943, aged 79; taught school, was graduated from the State University of Iowa, homoeopathic department in 1895, and was active in the practice of her profession to the time of her passing. She was a former president of the National Women's Homoeopathic association, and associated with the State Medical society, the Hahnemann Association of Iowa, and others. Her continued activity was shown by the fact that only a few months before the end came she had prepared a paper to be read before the Des Moines Medical Women's club. She had devoted much of her life to social betterment.

MRS. BELLE CLINTON ROBINSON, wife of former congressman T. J. B. Robinson, of Iowa, Canadian-born, died at her home in Hampton, Iowa, on August 10, 1943; daughter of the Rev. John W. Clinton, minister and educator; had resided in Iowa since her girlhood; a life-long member of the Methodist church; interested in home affairs as well as literature, art, music and politics; member of various clubs and social organizations and a life member of the W. C. T. U. Surviving besides her husband are three daughters and two sons.

